



Kiss Me at the Stroke of Midnight

vol.

2

Rin Mikimoto

★Kiss Me★
★at the★
★Stroke of★
★Midnight★



R i p M i k i m o t o

2

C O N T E N T S

S T O R Y . 4

Is That Really What Ayase-san is Like?

0 0 4

S T O R Y . 5

Obviously

0 4 9

S T O R Y . 6

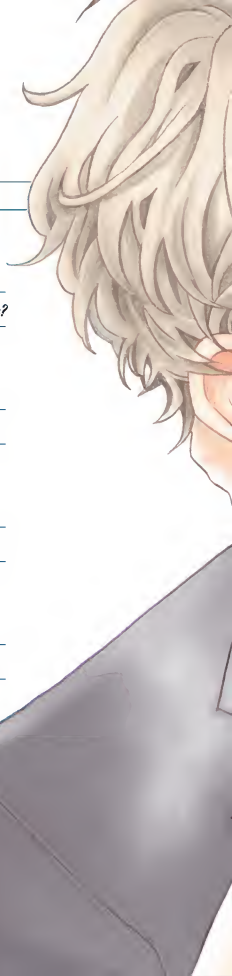
Making It Work

0 8 9

S T O R Y . 7

Pay Attention to Me, Too

1 3 1







✧ Kiss Me ✧
✧ at ✧
the ✧ Stroke of ✧
✧ Midnight ✧

HMM?

"THINGS DON'T
HAPPEN IN
REAL LIFE
THE WAY THEY
DO IN FAIRY
TALES."

YEAH,
I'M
AWARE
OF
THAT.

HUH?

STORY&CAST

KAEDE AYASE

A heartthrob actor who's a real prince!
He was formerly a member of the boy
band, Funny Bone. His secret is that he
has a butt fetish.

HINANA "NANA" HANAZAWA

A high school girl
with an overly serious
personality. Her secret
is that she wants to fall
in love with a prince
from a fairy tale.

SHIGE-CHAN

Kaede's manager.
He struggles to keep
Kaede in check.

HIKARU "RUN-CHAN"

Hinana's childhood
friend. She's the
vice president of
the student council.

AKIRA "AN-CHAN"

Hinana's
childhood friend.
He's in a band.

Kiss Me ^{at} the Stroke of Midnight

Hinana, a high school girl, dreams of a fairy-tale romance with a prince. And when she meets the famous heartthrob, Kaede, her dream becomes a reality...! Last Saturday, they met up for the first time.♥ After eating lunch, they went to Kaede's place, where Hinana's heart was fluttering. Before long, she finds herself under the shadow of a mystery girl named Scarlet—but it turns out that Scarlet is just Kaede's pet dog! Just as the misunderstanding was cleared, Kaede's manager, Shige-chan, appears!

...LET'S
SPEND
A LITTLE
MORE TIME
TOGETHER,
HINANA.

KAEDE AYASE MONTHEY

Highlights from this
previous installment!

I'VE
SEEN YOU
BEFORE,
HAVEN'T
I?

STARE

HELLO,
EVERYONE.

IT'S ME,
HINANA
HANAZAWA.

AND NOW
YOU'RE A
STALKER.

Right,
right.

YES.

I MEAN,
NO.

OH,
THAT'S
RIGHT.

DO
YOU
REALLY
WANT
TO GET
ARRESTED
THAT
BADLY?

I didn't
steal
them...

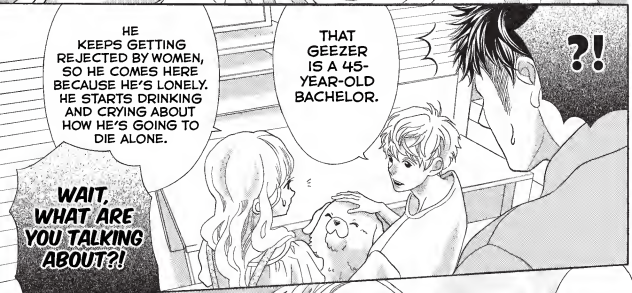
TCH.

YOU'RE
THAT
SHOE-
THIEF
EXTRA.



IT'S
ANNOYING,
SHIGEO.

DON'T
TAKE YOUR
FRUSTRATION
OUT ON
HER JUST
BECAUSE
YOU'RE
SINGLE.



HE
KEEPS GETTING
REJECTED BY WOMEN,
SO HE COMES HERE
BECAUSE HE'S LONELY.
HE STARTS DRINKING
AND CRYING ABOUT
HOW HE'S GOING TO
DIE ALONE.

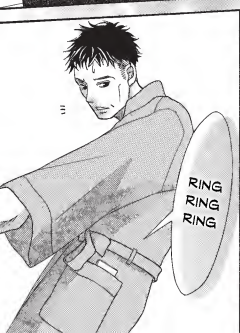
THAT
GEEZER
IS A 45-
YEAR-OLD
BACHELOR.

?!


**WAIT,
WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT?!**



GLANCE
...
DYING
ALONE...



RING
RING
RING

**STOP!
A HIGH-
SCHOOL GIRL
LOOKING AT
ME LIKE THAT
JUST MAKES
ME FEEL
WORSE, SO
JUST STOP!**

THAT
SOUNDS
TERRIBLE.
I HOPE YOU
FIND SOMEONE
NICE TO MARRY
SOON...



BEEP

YES?

WHAT?

HUH?

I'M
IN THE
MIDDLE OF
SOMETHING
RIGHT
NOW.

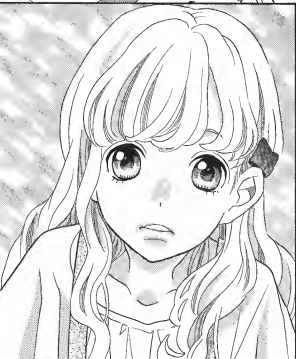
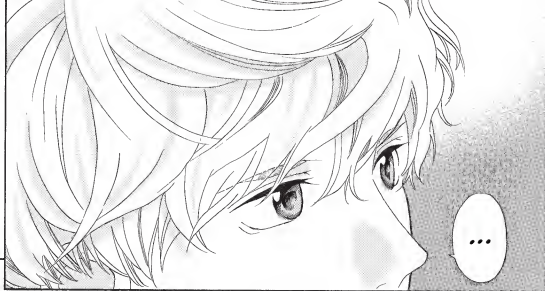


WHEN IS
IT GOING
TO COME
OUT?



GOT IT.
I'LL CALL
YOU BACK
LATER.







KAEDE.



OKAY.



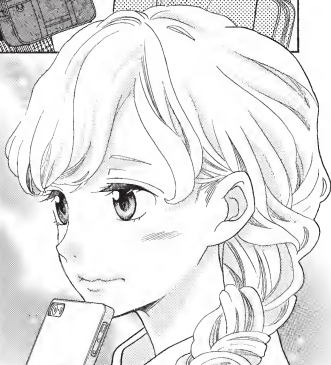
I FIGURED.



WE'VE
GOT AN
EMERGENCY.



I THINK
I KNOW
WHAT
YOU'RE
GOING ON
ABOUT.





I WANT TO
TALK TO
YOU ABOUT
SOMETHING.

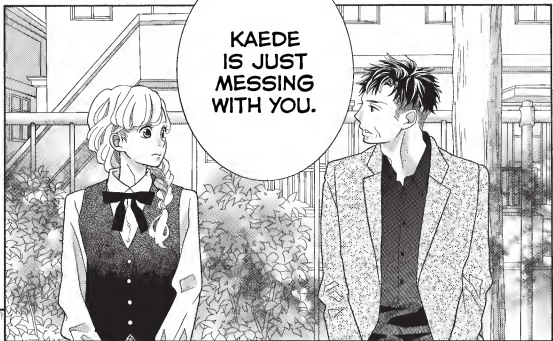


MAY
I BE
BLUNT?



S-SURE!
WHAT IS
IT?

GO
AHEAD.



KAEDE
IS JUST
MESSING
WITH YOU.



HE'S A
WOMANIZER,
SO HE DROPS
GIRLS JUST
AS QUICKLY
AS HE SHOWS
INTEREST.

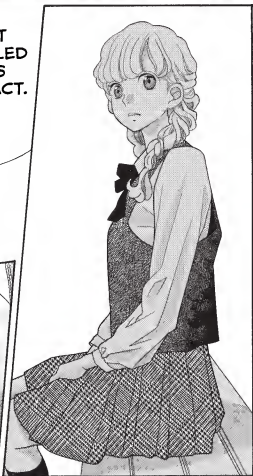
DON'T
BE FOOLED
BY HIS
LITTLE ACT.

HUH?



I'VE SEEN
A LOT OF
CRYING
GIRLS LEFT
IN HIS
WAKE.

WHEN HE
TIRES OF
THEM, HE
THROWS
THEM AWAY.
THAT'S WHAT
HE DOES.





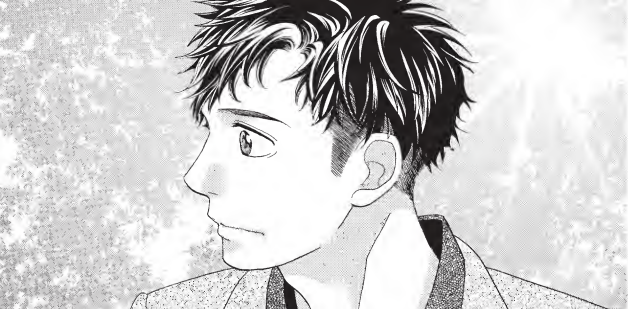
WHY
ARE YOU
LOOKING
AT ME LIKE
THAT?



THAT'S
THE SORT
OF AWFUL
PERSON
HE IS.



IS THAT
REALLY WHAT
AYASE-SAN
IS LIKE?



I DIDN'T
WANT TO
HAVE TO
SHOW YOU
THIS.

...

NO
OTHER
CHOICE,
THEN.

OH, I'M
SORRY. IT'S
JUST THAT
IT'S SO
DIFFERENT
FROM HOW
I SEE
HIM.

...

THIS
ARTICLE
WILL BE
PUBLISHED
TOMORROW.

?

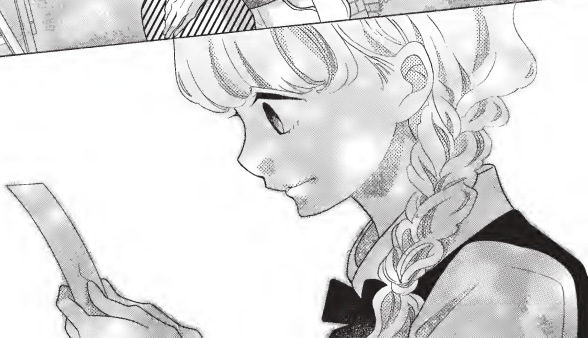
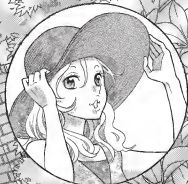
BUT
TAKE A
LOOK.

KAEDE AYASE TAKES A PIN-UP GIRL HOME!

IT'S
ABOUT
KAEDE.

THEY EMBRACED
IN FRONT OF A
RESTAURANT AFTER
ENJOYING A MEAL
TOGETHER AND
HEADED TOWARD
THE HOTEL DISTRICT.

HIS PARTNER
IS MIKURU FUJII,
THE UP-AND-COMING
STAR KNOWN FOR HER
PUCKERED DUCK LIPS.





HE
MADE
HIS MOVE
IN THE
BLINK OF
AN EYE.

THEY
APPEARED
ON A VARIETY
PROGRAM
TOGETHER,
AND I GUESS
THEY MUST
HAVE HIT IT
OFF.

WHAT?



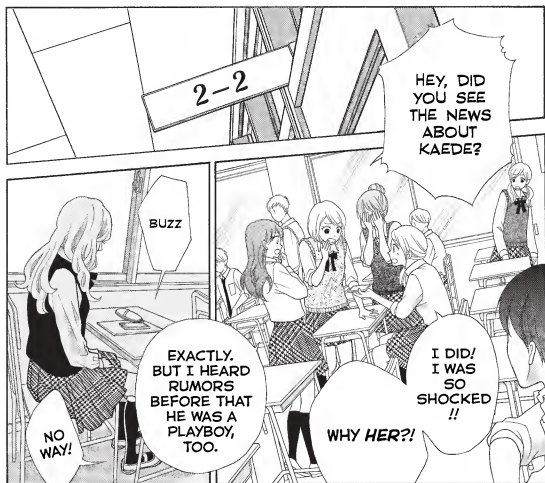
THEY EMBRACED
IN FRONT OF
RESTAURANT
AFTER ENJOYING
A MEAL
TOGETHER
HEADED TO
THE HOTEL
DISTRICT.

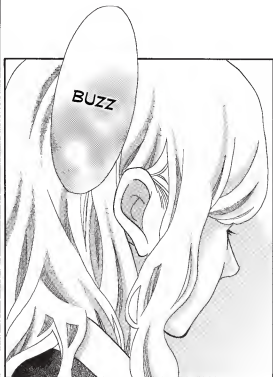
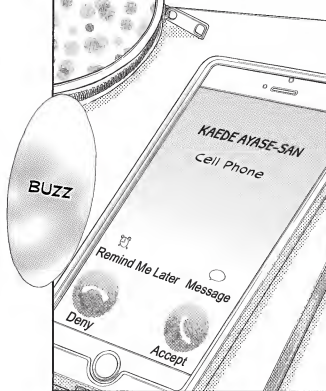
**NO
WAY.**



I FEEL
BAD FOR
YOU, BUT
THIS IS THE
REALITY.

I WANTED
TO BURST
YOUR BUBBLE
BEFORE IT
WAS TOO
LATE.









Hello!
Can I sit
next
to you?

I WAS
EATING AT
MY FRIEND'S
RESTAURANT
AFTER THE
SHOW AND
SHE JUST
SHOWED
UP.

WELL...

I HAD A
FEELING THERE
WAS SOMETHING
WEIRD GOING ON,
BUT I SHOULD
HAVE JUST
IGNORED HER.
THAT WAS MY
FAULT.



SHE
PRETENDED
THAT SHE WAS
TOO DRUNK TO
WALK SO SHE
HAD AN EXCUSE
TO CLING
ONTO ME.

What
should I do?
I can't
stand up.

SHE
DRANK
SO MUCH,
EVEN THOUGH
SHE SAID
SHE WAS
A LIGHT-
WEIGHT.

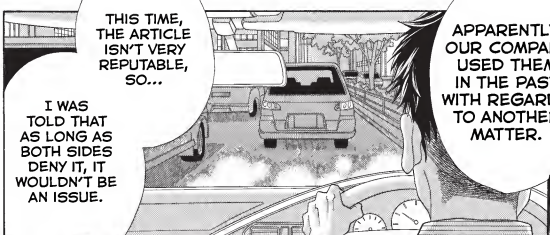


IT'S
ANNOYING,
BUT I
GUESS
WE'RE NO
BETTER
THAN THEY
ARE.

YEAH.



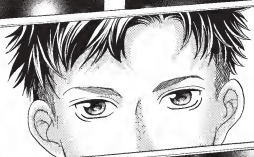
DID YOUR
HIGHER-UPS
TELL YOU TO
JUST ACCEPT
THEIR
APOLOGY
PEACEFULLY
?



THIS TIME,
THE ARTICLE
ISN'T VERY
REPUTABLE,
SO...

I WAS
TOLD THAT
AS LONG AS
BOTH SIDES
DENY IT, IT
WOULDN'T BE
AN ISSUE.

APPARENTLY,
OUR COMPANY
USED THEM
IN THE PAST
WITH REGARDS
TO ANOTHER
MATTER.



...I'M
JUST GLAD
THAT IT
WASN'T THAT
OTHER GIRL
YOU GOT
CAUGHT
WITH.

BUT,
KAEDE...

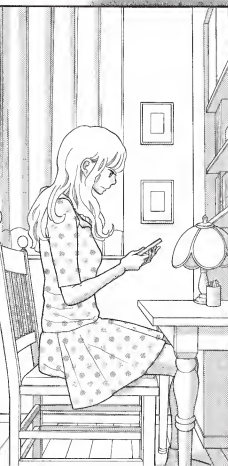
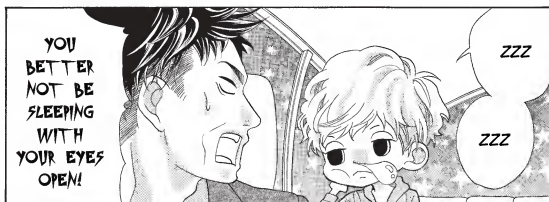


I DON'T
WANT YOU
TO END UP
IN ANOTHER
SITUATION
LIKE THAT
AGAIN.

I'M
GOING TO
PROTECT
YOU NO
MATTER
WHAT.



IF THEY
FOUND YOU
WITH A HIGH-
SCHOOL GIRL,
YOUR CAREER
WOULD BE
OVER IN AN
INSTANT.



MISSED CALLS

Kaede Ayase-san

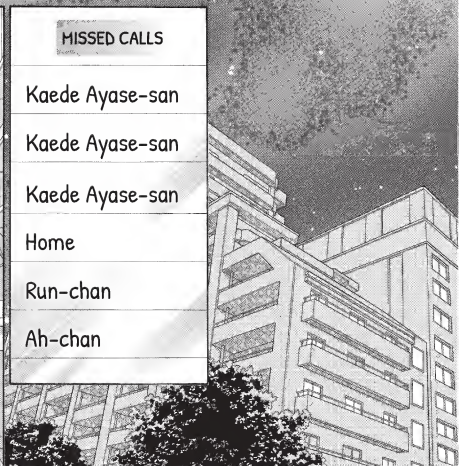
Kaede Ayase-san

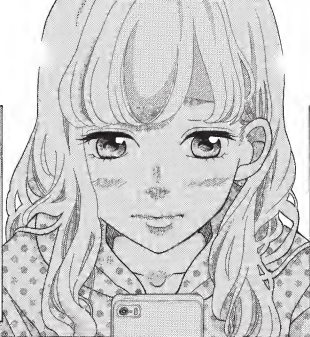
Kaede Ayase-san

Home

Run-chan

Ah-chan





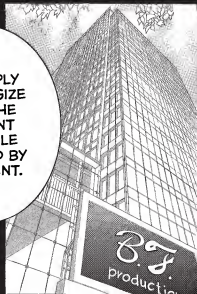
...WHAT
TO DO.

I DON'T
KNOW...

I DON'T
KNOW
ANYTHING
ABOUT
AYASE-SAN.



I DEEPLY
APOLOGIZE
FOR THE
RECENT
TROUBLE
CAUSED BY
MY CLIENT.



B.F.
production

THEY'RE
COLLECTIONS
OF HER
PHOTO
SHOOTS.

PLEASE
ACCEPT
THESE
AS AN
APOLOGY.

STOP
LOOKING
AT IT!

YAY!

フ
フ
FLUP

EX-
CUSE
ME...?

YOU'VE
GOT TO BE
KIDDING ME,
ADVERTISING
AT A TIME
LIKE
THIS...

DON'T
DO IT
AGAIN.

に
こ
SMILE

に
こ
SMILE

WELL,
THERE'S
NOTHING
WE CAN DO
ABOUT IT
NOW.

IT WAS
REALLY
BALLSY OF YOU
TO USE KAEDE
AYASE TO LIFT
HER INTO THE
SPOTLIGHT.



HUH?

DO YOU
REALLY
THINK IT
WAS THAT
BAD?

I'M
TALKING
ABOUT
THE
BOMB.

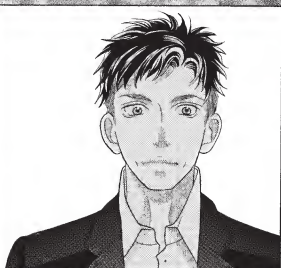
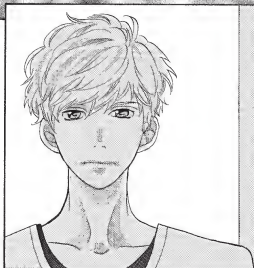
ESPECIALLY
COMPARED
TO YOUR
OTHER
PROBLEM.



OH,
COME
ON.



I'M
REFERRING
TO THE GIANT
DARKNESS
THAT'S
LOOMING
OVER KAEDE-
KUN.



HMM?

PFFT.



THIS
JERK...

IF THAT
GOT LEAKED,
IT WOULD BE
A KILLING
BLOW,
RIGHT?

SO
PLEASE
CUT ME
A LITTLE
SLACK.





IT FEELS
LIKE YOU'RE
SURROUNDED
BY SMOKE.

DOESN'T
THIS INDUSTRY
MAKE YOU FEEL
LIKE YOU'RE
SUFFOCATING?



SOMETHING
AS PURE
AS ONE
OF THOSE
IONIC AIR
CLEANERS.

BUT
RECENTLY,
I FOUND
SOMETHING...

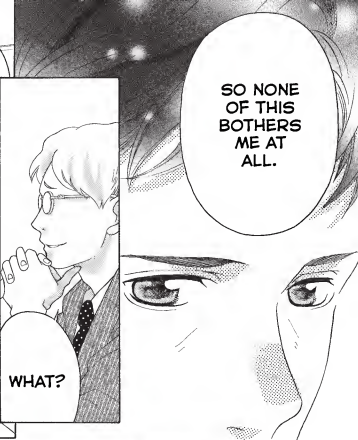


"IS THAT
REALLY
WHAT
AYASE-
SAN IS
LIKE?"





I DON'T UNDER-
STAND WHAT
YOU'RE TRYING TO
GET AT.



SO NONE OF THIS
BOTHERS
ME AT
ALL.



WHAT?



OKAY.
LET ME
BREAK IT
DOWN FOR
YOU.





IF
YOU THINK
YOU CAN
CRUSH ME...
TRY ME.





Nice!

IT'S
LOADED
WITH
PLUMP
BOOTY!

SHIGE-
CHAN, I'M
TAKING THIS
BOOK HOME
WITH ME.



HMM?

KAEDE.

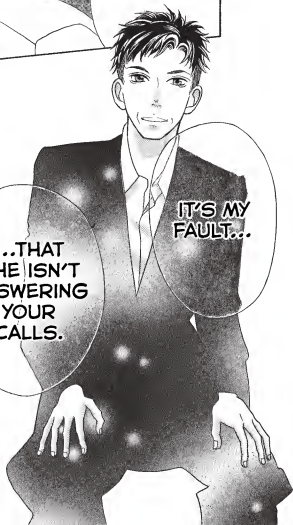


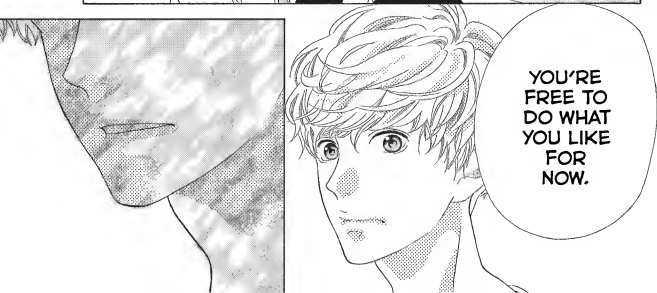
...SO
THAT
SHE'D
STAY AWAY
FROM
YOU.

I HURT
HER BY
LYING
TO HER
ABOUT THE
ARTICLE...

...THAT
SHE ISN'T
ANSWERING
YOUR
CALLS.

IT'S MY
FAULT...



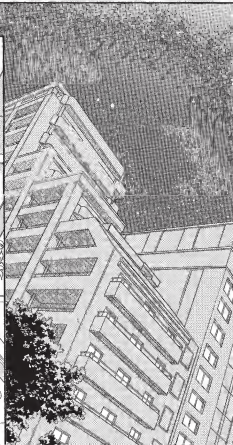
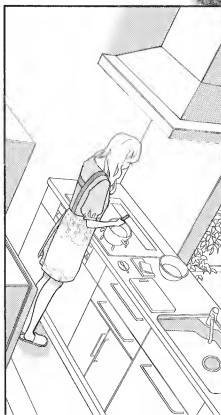




BUT DON'T
THINK I'VE
FORGIVEN
YOU, SHIGE-
CHAN!



HEY,
NANA-
CHANI





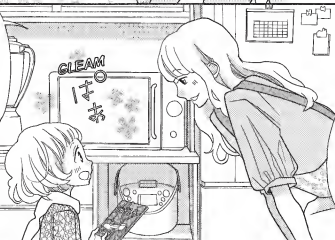
CINDERELLA!



UM,
CAN YOU
READ ME
A STORY
LATER?

I'M
GETTING
IT READY
RIGHT NOW,
SO YOU'LL
HAVE TO
WAIT A BIT.

OKAY!
THANKS!

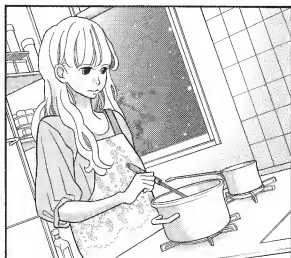


SURE
...

I'LL
READ IT
TO YOU
AFTER
DINNER.



"THIS IS A
BIT LIKE A
FAIRY TALE,
DON'T
YOU
THINK?"



**BUT
REAL LIFE
ISN'T AS
PERFECT
AS THAT.**

**BACK
THEN...**

**...I
FELT LIKE
CINDERELLA.**

**...AND
THAT SMILE...
WERE THEY
JUST LIES?**

**THAT
EXPRESSION...**

**...AND I
DIDN'T HAVE
THE CHANCE
TO THINK
ABOUT HOW
I FELT.**

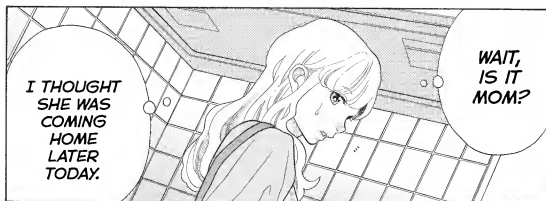
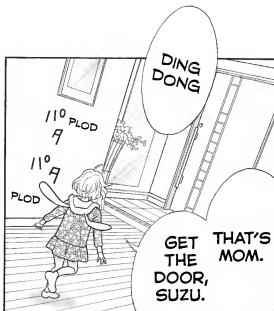
**EVERYTHING
HAPPENED
SO
QUICKLY...**

**TURNS OUT
I REALLY
DID LIKE
AYASE-SAN.**



**BUT
I'M TOO
SCARED
TO PICK
UP THE
PHONE.**

**I STILL
WANT TO
TRUST HIM,
EVEN
NOW.**

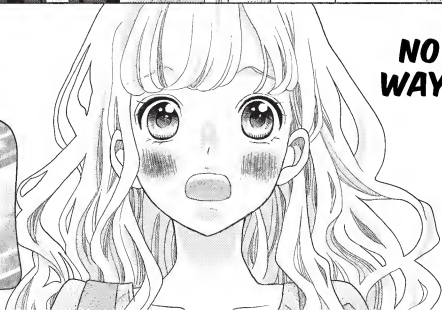




**WOW!
PRINCES
REALLY DO
EXIST, HUH?**

**THE
PHONE.**

**NO
WAY!**



!!

!!
SHOCK

I
CALLED
YOU SO
MANY
TIMES!
WHY
DIDN'T
YOU PICK
UP?

ANYONE
WOULD
MOPE
ABOUT
THIS!
OBVIOUS-
LY!

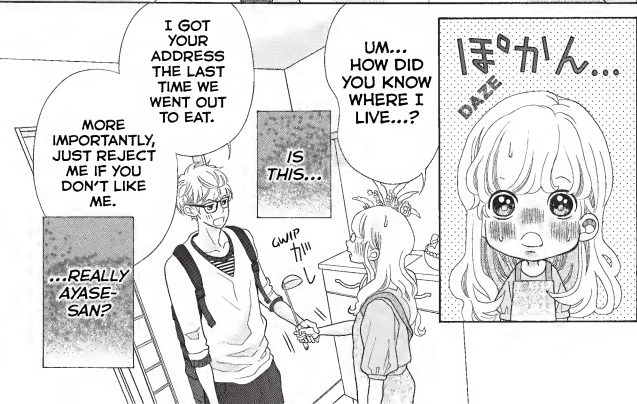
IGNORING
IS THE
WORST!

DON'T
DO
THIS!

EVERY-
THING
IN THAT
ARTICLE
WAS A
LIE.



**YOU'RE
THE ONE
I WANT
TO DATE!**



I GOT
YOUR
ADDRESS
THE LAST
TIME WE
WENT OUT
TO EAT.

MORE
IMPORTANTLY,
JUST REJECT
ME IF YOU
DON'T LIKE
ME.

...REALLY
AYASE-
SAN?

IS
THIS...

GWIP
し

UM...
HOW DID
YOU KNOW
WHERE I
LIVE...?





THIS
IS SO
UNCOOL,
HUH.

DAMN
IT...



IT
DOESN'T
MATTER
WHAT
ANYONE
ELSE
SAYS.

I...

AH.

I
DON'T
CARE.

**I'M GOING
TO TRUST
THE PERSON
STANDING
RIGHT IN
FRONT
OF ME.**

HEHE

「
「
」」

**I WANT
TO BE
WITH YOU,
TOO.**



**I'M
HINANA
HANAZAWA,
16-YEAR-
OLD...**



WOW!

**WOOOW!
AMAZING!**

**IT'S JUST
LIKE A FAIRY
TALE!**

**...AND STARTING TODAY,
I'M OFFICIALLY IN LOVE!**

✦ Kiss Me ✦
✦ at ✦
✦ the ✦ Stroke of ✦
✦ Midnight ✦



◆ Kiss Me ◆
◆ at the Stroke of ◆
◆ Midnight ◆

STORY . 5

Obviously



MORNING.

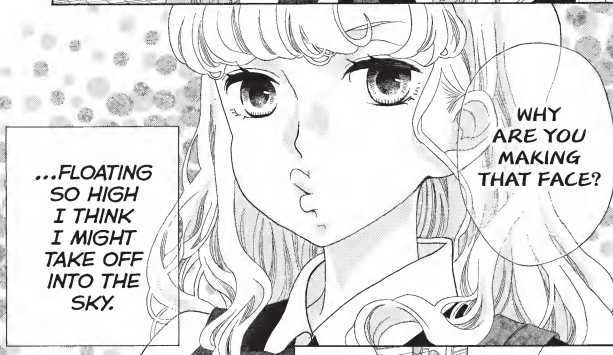
HEY,
HINANA.

★ Kiss Me ★
★ at the ★
★ Stroke of ★
★ Midnight ★



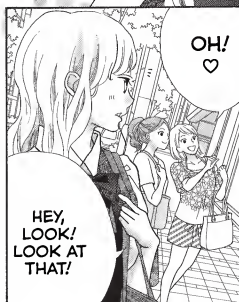
SO
RIGHT
NOW,
I'M...

GOOD
MORNING,
AH-CHAN.



...FLOATING
SO HIGH
I THINK
I MIGHT
TAKE OFF
INTO THE
SKY.

WHY
ARE YOU
MAKING
THAT FACE?



HEY,
LOOK!
LOOK AT
THAT!

OH!
♡



YEAH,
SHE SAID
SHE'D
CATCH UP,
SO WE
SHOULD
GO AHEAD
WITHOUT
HER.

OKAY,
LET'S
GO.

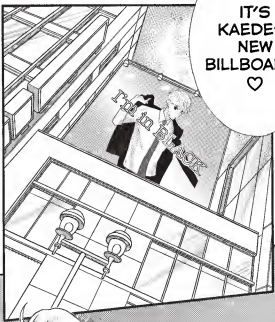


NOTHING.

DID
RUN-
CHAN
OVER-
SLEEP?



HE'S...



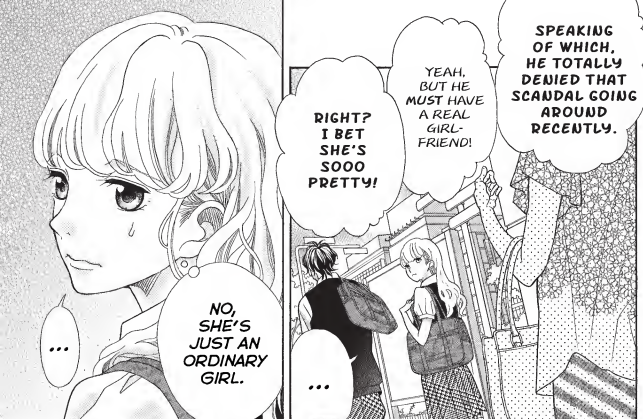
IT'S
KAEDE'S
NEW
BILLBOARD!
♡



...A
SUPER-
STAR.

I'm in BLACK

WOW,
HE LOOKS
SO COOL!
♡





NO,
YOU'RE
ACTING
WEIRD.

N-
NOTHING.
I SWEAR.

AM NOT!
THERE'S
REALLY
NOTHING
GOING ON.

キ
HUP

SERIOUSLY,
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?

NANA?



HUH?

YOU NEVER
TELL ME WHAT'S
ON YOUR MIND,
NOT EVEN WHEN
WE WERE KIDS.







...I CAN'T
TELL ANYONE
ABOUT
AYASE-SAN.

BUT
THIS IS A
"SECRET
RELATION-
SHIP,"
SO...



...HE'S
BEEN
SO BUSY I
HAVEN'T SEEN
HIM SINCE HE
SHOWED UP
AT MY HOUSE
TWO WEEKS
AGO.

IN ANY
CASE...



BUZZ
BUZZ

I WONDER
HOW HE'S
DOING.

HE
SENDS ME
MESSAGES,
SO I'M
HAPPY
ABOUT
THAT,
BUT...

MESSAGE Ayase-san

SENDER

I'm off tomorrow evening.
That's just in time for the
Tanabata festival. Do you
want to go?

I GET
TO SEE
HIM?

THE
TANABATA
FESTIVAL?

!!

IT'S
AYASE-
SAN!

CLASS
REP, WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?

YES!!

KAEDE.

YOU'RE
REALLY
GOING TO
GO SEE
HER LIKE
THIS?

GREEN ROOM
KAEDE
AYASE

BZZ
BZZ

Oh,
that was
a quick
reply.

ALL I
SAID WAS
THAT I WAS
FEELING
A LITTLE
DIZZY.

YOU'RE
OVER-
REACTING.

BUT
YOU'VE
BARELY
HAD TIME
TO SLEEP
THIS
WEEK.

I'VE
BEEN
NAPPING
IN THE CAR
BETWEEN
APPOINT-
MENTS.

THE IV
IS JUST A
PRECAUTION.

IF YOU
HAVE
TIME OFF
RIGHT NOW,
ISN'T IT MORE
IMPORTANT
FOR YOU TO
REST INSTEAD
OF GOING
TO SEE A
GIRL?

TIME IS
REALLY
VALUABLE
FOR YOU,
YOU KNOW.

MESSAGE Hinana Hanazawa

You've been working
so hard.
I'm so happy.
I'll go.



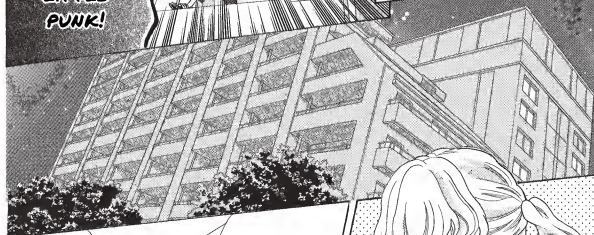
IF
YOU HAVE
THAT MUCH
ENERGY, PUT
IT INTO YOUR
WORK, YOU
LITTLE
PUNK!

IF YOU GO
BUY ME THE PORN
BOOK "HELLO FROM
BUTT COUNTRY"...
THEN I'LL THINK
ABOUT IT.

This is
a first!

OH! I'M
GLAD YOU
UNDER-
STAND.

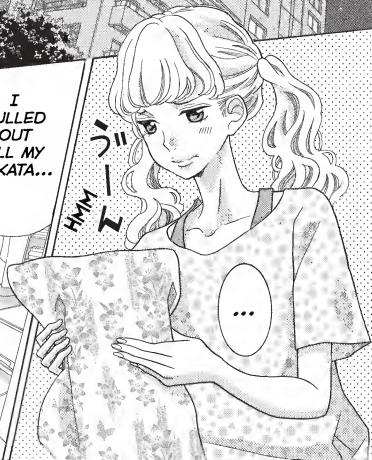
YOU'RE
RIGHT.



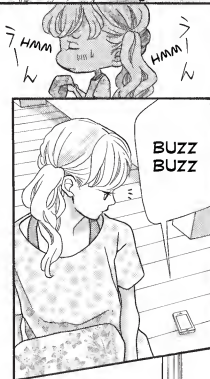
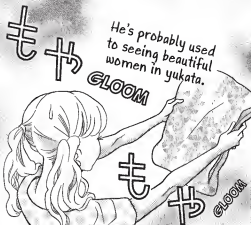
...BUT
I STILL
DON'T
KNOW
WHICH
ONE TO
WEAR.

I
PULLED
OUT
ALL MY
YUKATA...

うーん
ーん
HMM



...



MESSAGE Ayase-san

SENDER

Tomorrow at 6.
Meet me at the
shrine entrance.
I can't wait.

I CAN'T
WAIT.





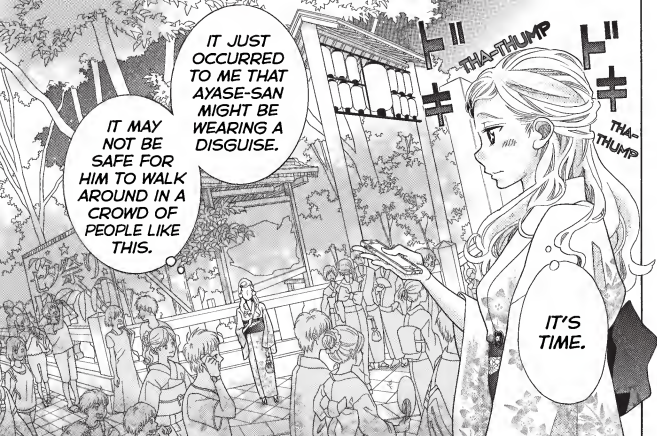
YEP, I'M
DEFINITELY
GOING TO
GO WITH A
YUKATA!

I
HOPE...



...HE
FEELS
THE
SAME
WAY I
DO.

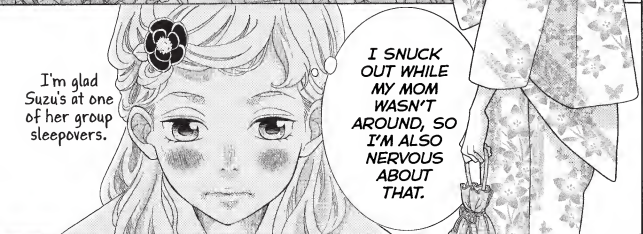
18:00
July 7th,
Tuesday



IT MAY NOT BE SAFE FOR HIM TO WALK AROUND IN A CROWD OF PEOPLE LIKE THIS.

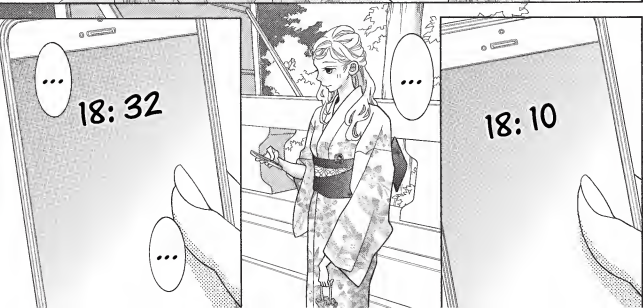
IT JUST OCCURRED TO ME THAT AYASE-SAN MIGHT BE WEARING A DISGUISE.

IT'S TIME.



I'm glad Suzu's at one of her group sleepovers.

I SNUCK OUT WHILE MY MOM WASN'T AROUND, SO I'M ALSO NERVOUS ABOUT THAT.



18:32

18:10



DID
SOME-
THING
HAPPEN?

I
WONDER
WHAT'S
WRONG...

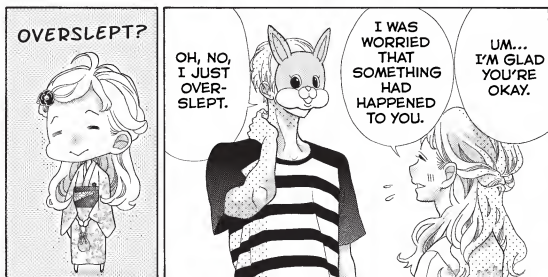
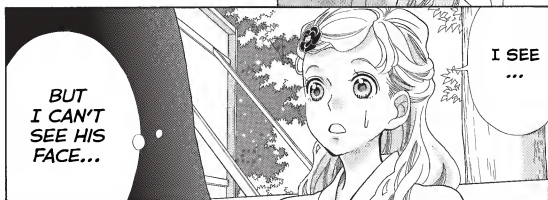
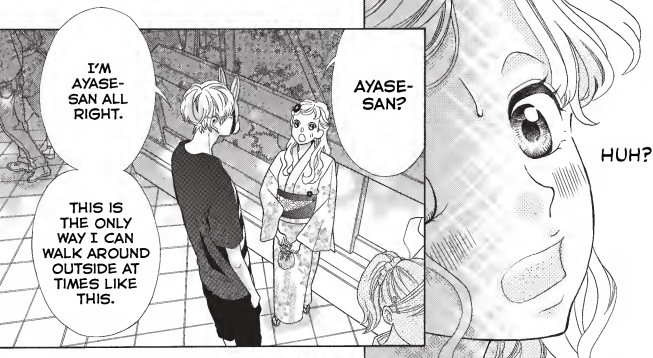
WAIT...

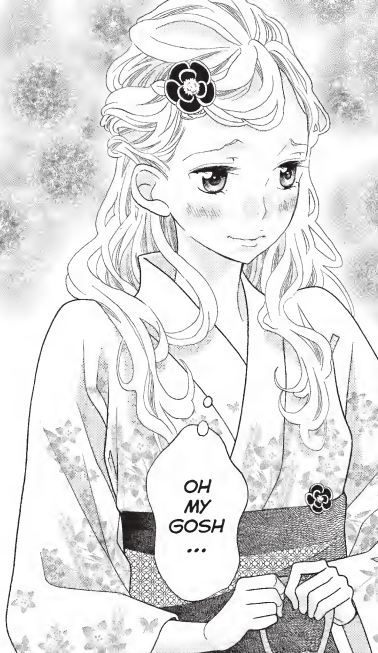
HE'S
STILL
NOT
HERE?

SORRY
I'M
LATE.

!

I LEFT
IN SUCH A
HURRY THAT
I FORGOT MY
PHONE, SO
I COULDN'T
CONTACT
YOU.





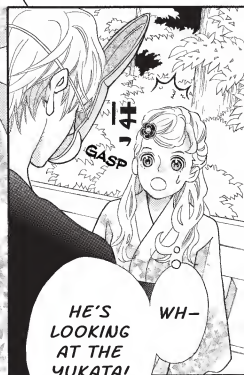
OH
MY
GOSH
...



...BEEN
WAITING
FOR AN
HOUR...

I'VE...

U
STARE
...



HE'S
LOOKING
AT THE
YUKATA!

WH-

GASP
4+

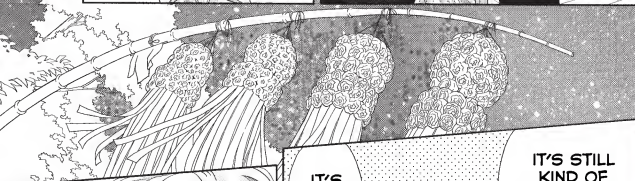


...SAY
ANYTHING
ABOUT
IT.

HE
DIDNT
...



OKAY,
LET'S
GO.



AS LONG
AS WE'RE
TOGETHER,
I'M HAPPY
NO MATTER
WHAT WE
DO.



IT'S
FINE,
IT'S
FINE.

IT'S STILL
KIND OF
RISKY WITH
THE MASK
ON, ISN'T
IT?

WHAT
DO YOU
WANT
TO DO
FIRST?

...

...JUST SAID
SOMETHING
SUPER
EMBARRASS-
ING.

I...

OH.

GASP

はー

HE
IGNORED
IT!

DA-
タ-
タ-
タ-
DUN

THEN
LET'S GO
PLAY THE
SHOOTING
GAME.

UM,

ARE YOU
GOOD AT
THIS?

YEAH.
I HAD TO
TRAIN FOR
A POLICE
OFFICER
ROLE.

WHICH
PRIZE
DO YOU
WANT?

SHOOTING
RANGE



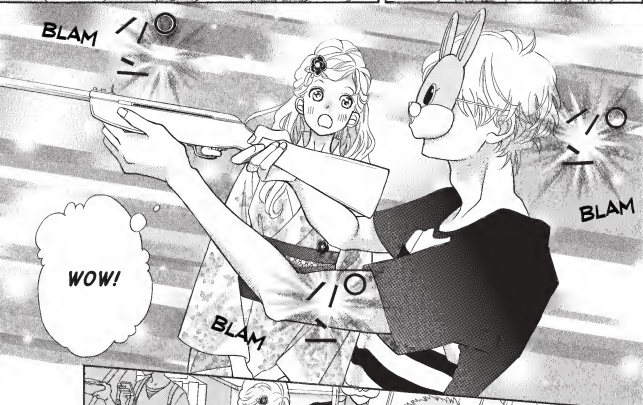
O-
OKAY.

EITHER
THE BEAR,
BUNNY,
OR CAT
PLUSHES...

OKAY,
I'LL GET
THEM
ALL.



!



BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

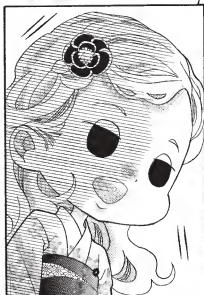
WOW!



YOU'RE
REALLY
GOOD,
KID.

CONGRATS,
YOU WON
THREE
PRIZES.

YAY!
STUFFED
ANIMALS!



おしりグラス

BUTT GLASSES



NO,
I
DON'T.

YOU
WANT
THEM?

SORRY,
THEY
JUST
CAUGHT
MY EYE.



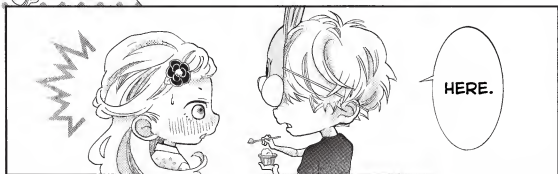
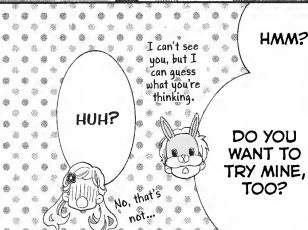
ほ
く
GLEAM

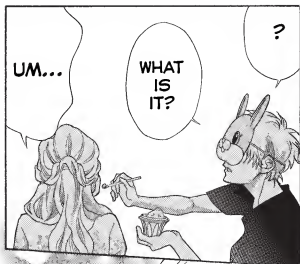
I
ALMOST
FEEL
LIKE I
SHOULD
SAVE IT!

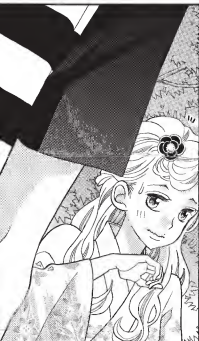
ほ
く
GLEAM

HE
BOUGHT
ME SHAVED
ICE TO MAKE
UP FOR
THE BUTT
GLASSES.

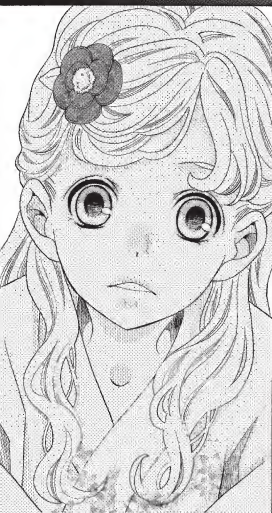
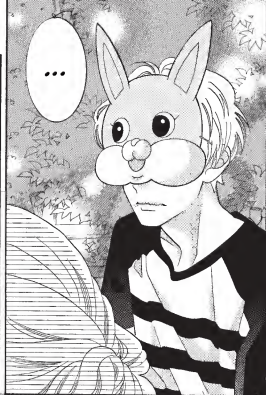






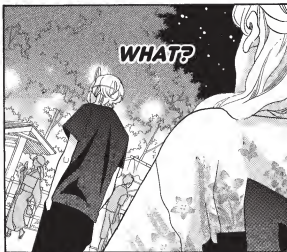
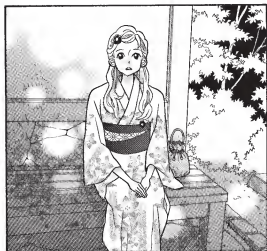


UGH,
SAYING
THAT MADE
ME FEEL
MORE SELF-
CONSCIOUS.

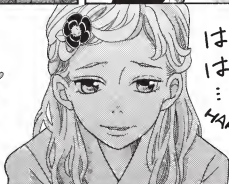


I'M
GOING
TO THE
BATHROOM.
BE RIGHT
BACK.





...IGNORED
MY COMMENT
AGAIN.



は
は
...
HAHA

HE...



A black and white manga panel showing a woman with blonde hair tied in a ponytail, wearing a patterned kimono and a dark obi. She is looking down at a path that leads into the distance. There are some plants and a fence in the background.

I
REALIZED
THIS
BEFORE...

...BUT IT'S
EMBARRASSING
BEING THE ONLY
ONE WHO'S
ENTHUSIASTIC.

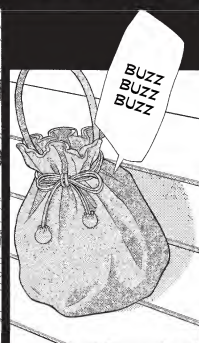
A black and white manga panel showing a close-up of the woman's face. She has a thoughtful or slightly sad expression. Her hair is styled with a small clip.

IT'S AN
UNKNOWN
NUMBER...

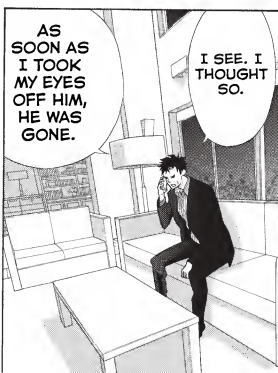
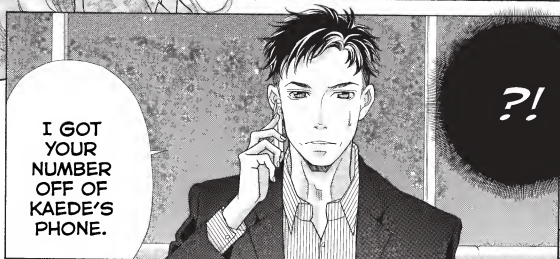
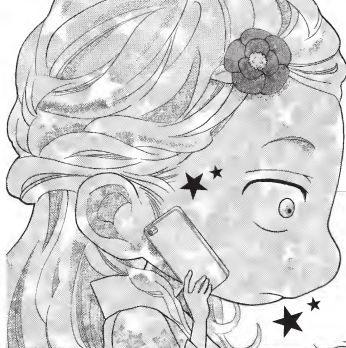
?

A black and white manga panel showing the woman from the side, looking down at a small bag on the ground. She is wearing the same kimono and obi.

BUZZ
BUZZ

A black and white manga panel showing a close-up of a small, tied bag with a drawstring top. The bag has a small tassel hanging from it.

BUZZ
BUZZ
BUZZ





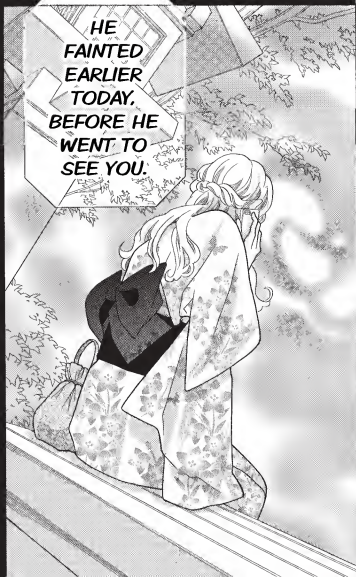
SORRY,
BUT I'D LIKE
HIM TO COME
HOME RIGHT
AWAY.

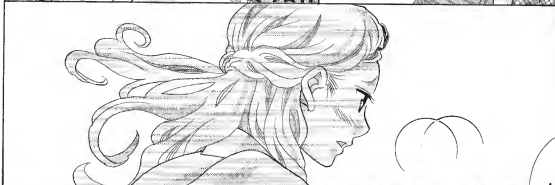
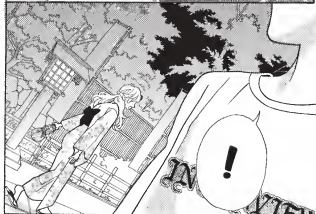
IS
SOMETHING
WRONG?

HUH?



HE
FAINTED
EARLIER
TODAY,
BEFORE HE
WENT TO
SEE YOU.





HUH?

YOU'RE
NOT
FEELING
WELL,
RIGHT?

おネ
WHOA
GRAB

YOU
WERE
LYING
WHEN YOU
SAID YOU
OVERSLEPT,
WEREN'T
YOU?

!

I'M NOT
GOING
HOME.

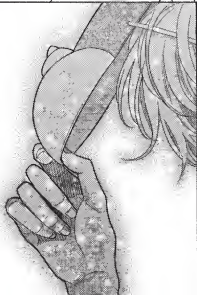
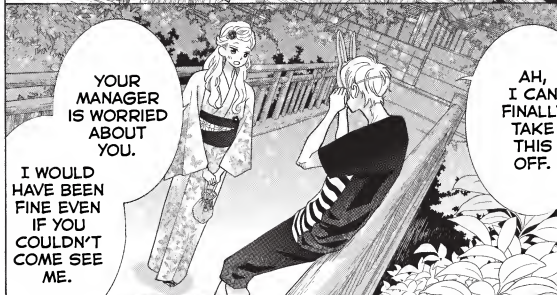
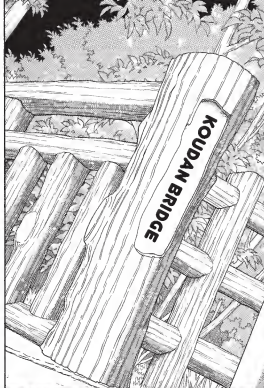
HUH?

DID
SHIGE
SNITCH
ON ME?

LET'S
GO HOME
RIGHT
NOW.

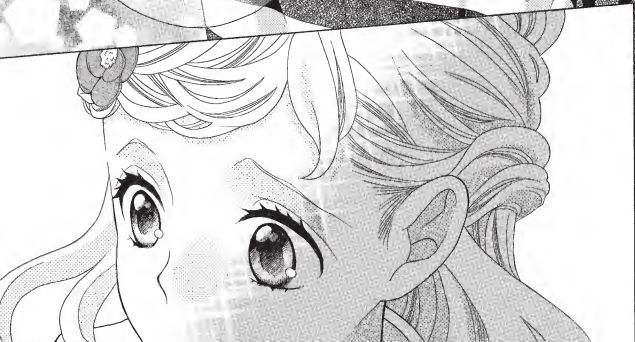
TURN

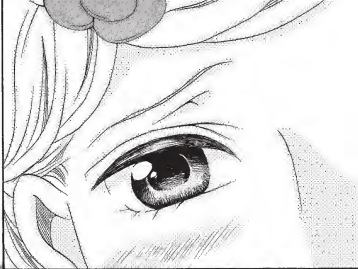
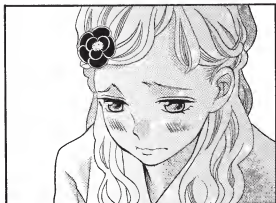
WE
CAN'T
LET IT
GET ANY
WORSE.





I CAME
BECAUSE I
WANTED TO
SEE YOU,
OBVIOUSLY.





BECAUSE
YOU KEPT
ACTING SO
CUTE.

WELL,
I WAS
HOLDING
MYSELF
BACK.

IT DIDN'T
SEEM THAT
WAY TO ME,
THOUGH...

HOLDING
BACK?

I WANT
TO KISS
YOU.



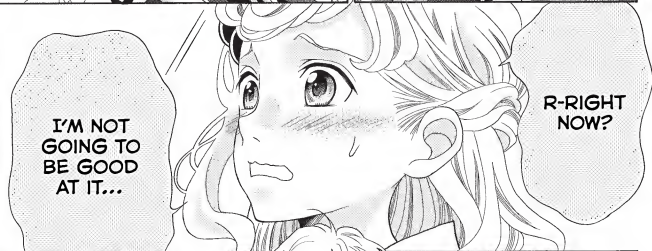
See?
Cute.

HUH?

SO,
CAN I?



?!



I'M NOT
GOING TO
BE GOOD
AT IT...

R-RIGHT
NOW?



BLUSH



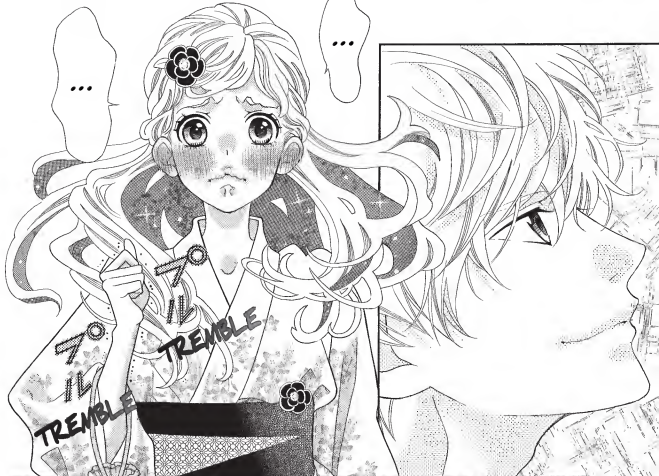
SMIRK

SMIRK

OH?

SO YOU
KNOW THE
DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN A
GOOD KISS AND
A BAD KISS,
HUH?

YOU'RE
SUCH
A PERV,
HINANA.





I WANT
US TO BE
CLOSER.

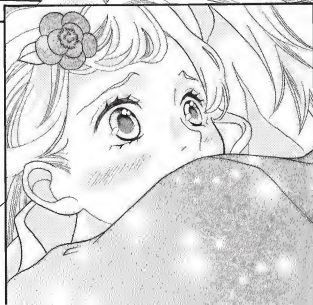
IF I HAVE
EVEN A LITTLE
BIT OF FREE
TIME, I'LL COME
GET YOU EVERY
TIME.



O-O-KAY.
THEN FROM
NOW ON, IF
YOU THINK
TOO MUCH
ABOUT BUTTS,
I'M GOING TO
SMACK YOU!
GOT IT?!



YEAH.





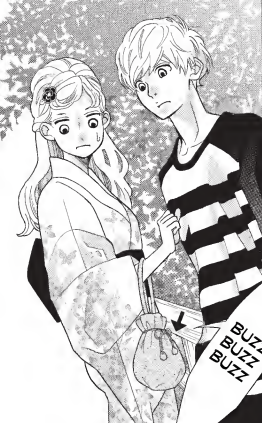
AND IN
RETURN,
I'LL TEACH
YOU HOW TO
KISS.



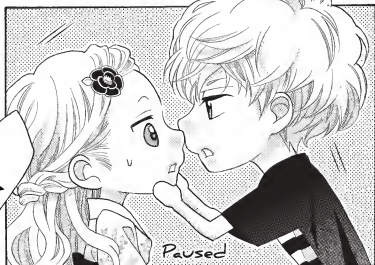
Let's
work
together.



AYASE-
SAN...



BUZZ



**B-BUT
IT MIGHT
BE YOUR
MANAGER.**

**DO YOU
HAVE TO
ANSWER
IT?**

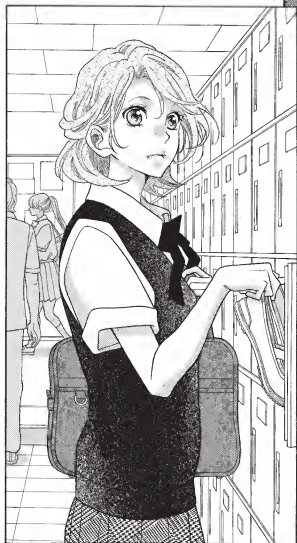




STORY . 6

Making It Work

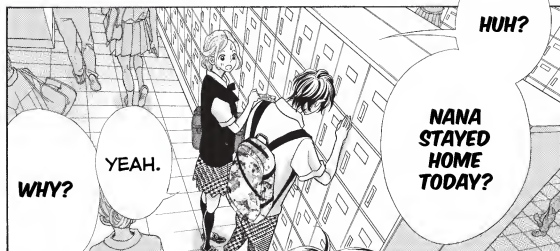




IT'S BEEN
TWO AND
A HALF
MONTHS...

...SINCE
I FIRST
MET
AYASE-
SAN.

★Kiss Me★
★at★
the★Stroke of★
★Midnight★



HUH?

**NANA
STAYED
HOME
TODAY?**

YEAH.

WHY?



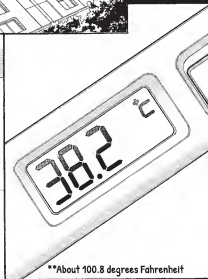
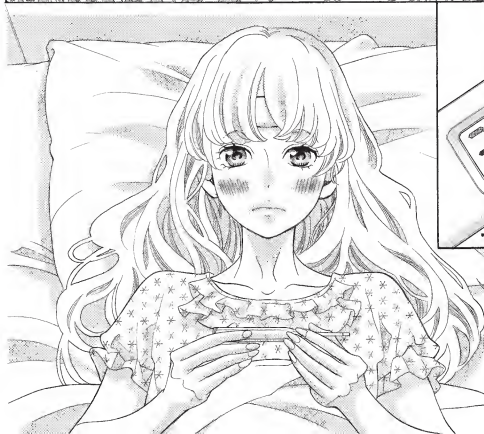
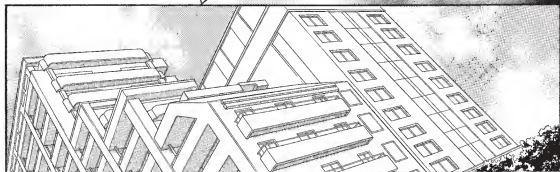
**WOW, IT
REALLY IS
SUMMER
NOW,
HUH?**

**SHE
SAID SHE
CAUGHT A
COLD.**

**SHE SAID
IT WAS
PROBABLY
BECAUSE SHE
WAS PLAYING
IN THE WATER
WITH HER
LITTLE SISTER
YESTERDAY.**

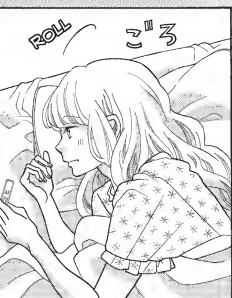
**OH, MAYBE
THE HEAT IS
THE REASON
SHE'S BEEN
SPACING OUT
SO MUCH
LATELY, TOO.**

...



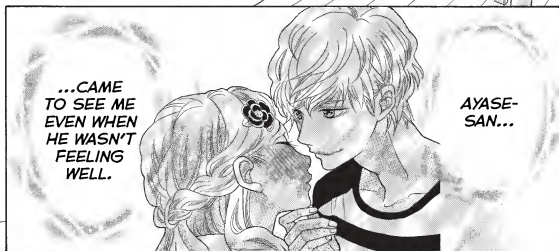
**About 100.8 degrees Fahrenheit

SIGH.



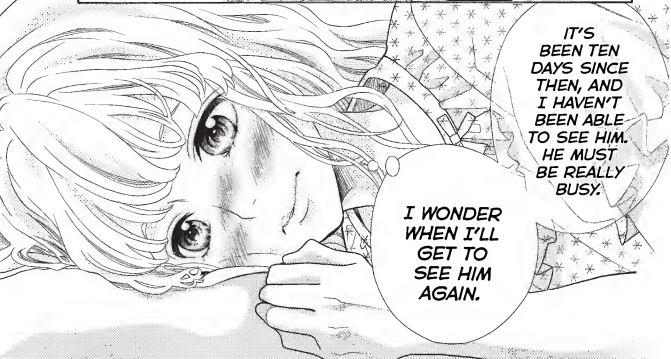
I WANTED
TO GO TO
SCHOOL
IN THE
AFTERNOON,
BUT I'LL HAVE
TO GIVE UP
ON THAT.

MY
FEVER
ISN'T
GOING
DOWN AT
ALL.



...CAME
TO SEE ME
EVEN WHEN
HE WASN'T
FEELING
WELL.

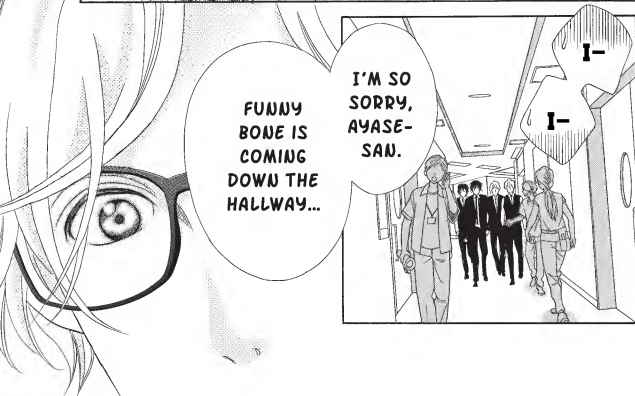
AYASE-
SAN...

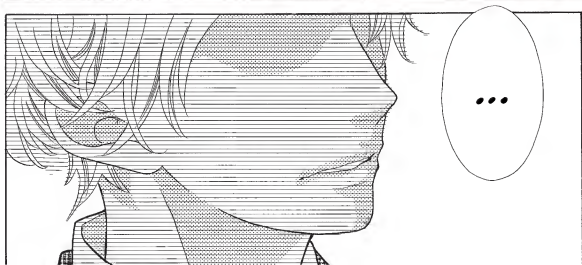


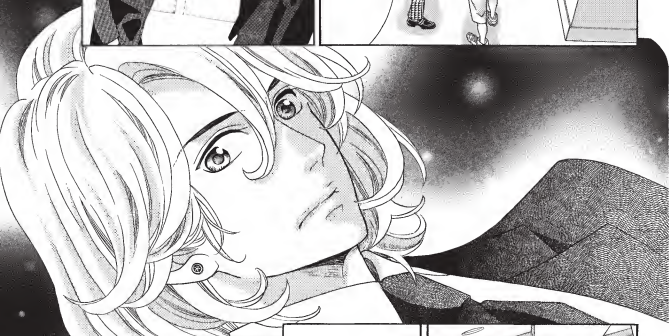
IT'S
BEEN TEN
DAYS SINCE
THEN, AND
I HAVEN'T
BEEN ABLE
TO SEE HIM.
HE MUST
BE REALLY
BUSY.

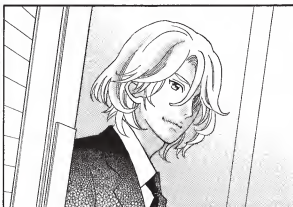
I WONDER
WHEN I'LL
GET TO
SEE HIM
AGAIN.













I DON'T
HATE HIM,
THOUGH.

YEAH,
THE
MEDICINE
SEEMS
TO BE
WORKING,
SO I'LL
BE FINE.

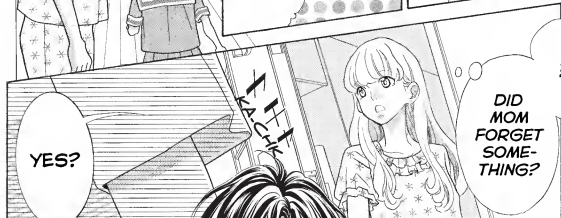
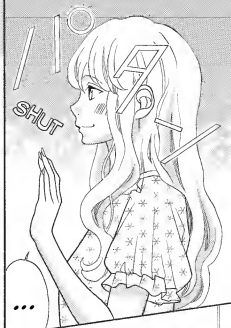
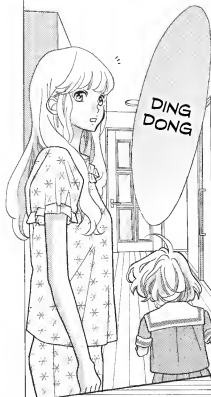
ARE
YOU
SURE
YOU'LL BE
OKAY IF I
GO TO
WORK?

OKAY,
I'M OFF,
THEN.

I'LL
BE A
GOOD
GIRL!

It was
Mom's job
to walk
Suzu to
kindergarten
and pick her
up after.

HAVE A
GOOD
DAY.



I KNEW IT!
I FIGURED
YOU'D STILL
BE DOING ALL
THE HOUSE-
WORK.

I CAME
TO LOOK
AFTER
SUZU.

AH-
CHAN!

ACK~"...

I CAN
READ
YOU LIKE
A BOOK,
Y'KNOW.

YOU
STILL
HAVE A
FEVER,
DON'T
YOU?

OH.

RIGHT.

YUP.

THANKS.
COME ON
IN. SUZU
WILL BE
ECSTATIC.





OH, YEAH,
I TOTALLY
FORGOT
YOUR FAMILY
HAS A
FLOWER
SHOP!

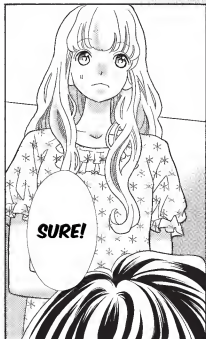
!

WOW,
THANK
YOU!

AH-
CHAN
IS
HERE!

SUZU!

OH!

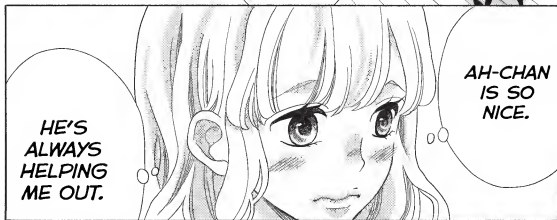


SURE!

YEAH.
AH-CHAN'S
GOING TO
COOK YOU
DINNER
TONIGHT.

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE? DID
YOU COME
TO SEE
ME?

YAY!
WILL YOU
READ ME
A BOOK,
TOO?



HE'S
ALWAYS
HELPING
ME OUT.

AH-CHAN
IS SO
NICE.



Why do you look like
you're praying?

He's a divine man,
worthy of national
treasure status.



SUZU
WON'T
TELL
HIM
ABOUT
AYASE-SAN,
WILL SHE?

BUZZ

HE TOLD
ME TO
GET SOME
SLEEP, BUT
I'VE SLEPT
SO MUCH
I'M WIDE
AWAKE...



!!

BUZZ
7

BUZZ
7

INCOMING CALL
AYASE-SAN

BUZZ
7

YEAH.

H—

HELLO?

I HAVE A
LITTLE BREAK,
SO I THOUGHT
I'D TRY GIVING
YOU A CALL.

HEY,
IT'S
BEEN A
WHILE.





I'M
FILMING
A COM-
MERCIAL

WHAT
ARE YOU
UP TO
TODAY?

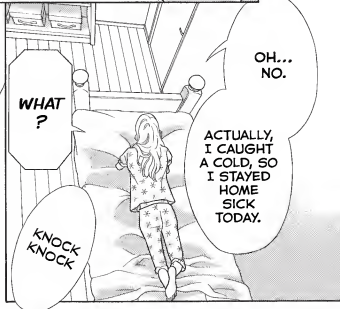
I'M GLAD
YOU DID.

YOU
JUST GOT
HOME
FROM
SCHOOL?



NANA?

GA-
CHK #77



WHAT
?

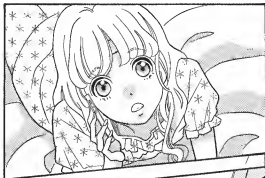
OH...
NO.

ACTUALLY,
I CAUGHT
A COLD, SO
I STAYED
HOME
SICK
TODAY.

KNOCK
KNOCK

I HAVE A
QUESTION...





I'LL
COME
BACK
LATER.



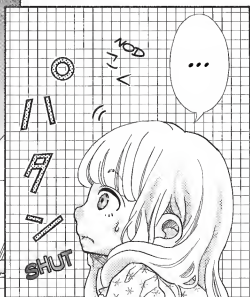
...
CREAK

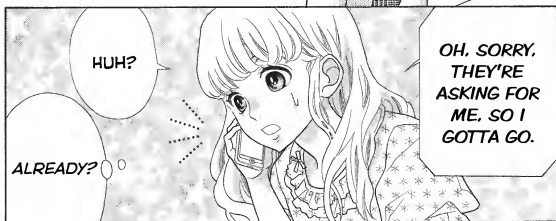
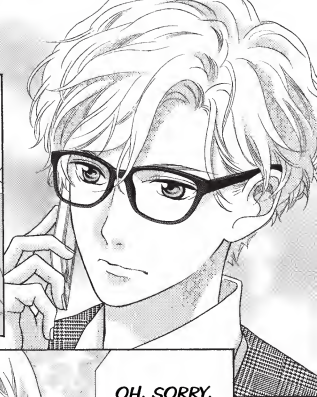
SORRY.

OH,
THAT
WAS MY
CHILDHOOD
FRIEND,
AH-CHAN.

THAT
VOICE
JUST
NOW...

HE
CAME
OVER TO
HELP ME
WITH MY
CHORES.

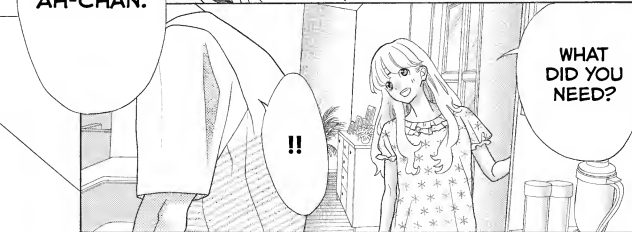






AH-CHAN.

THAT
CALL
JUST
NOW
COULDN'T
HAVE
BEEN
FROM...



WHAT
DID YOU
NEED?

!!



You can
do it,
Witch-
san!

I'LL
GET IT
OUT FOR
YOU.

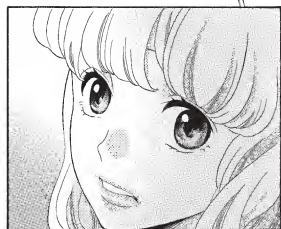
OH,
THANKS.



NANA!

OH.

NO, UM,
I WAS JUST
WONDERING
WHERE YOUR
SLICER IS.





IN
ANY
CASE,

YOU
SHOULD
RELY MORE
ON YOUR
MOM.



HM?
NO
PROBLEM.

THANKS.

NEVER
MIND.



YOU
ALWAYS
PUSH
YOURSELF
TOO HARD
AND END UP
LIKE THIS.

!



Whoa!

I'M
FINE.



I THINK
YOU JUST
WORRY
ABOUT ME
TOO MUCH.
IT'S ALL
RIGHT.

I'M NOT
PUSHING
MYSELF
TOO HARD
AT ALL.

ARE
YOU
SURE?

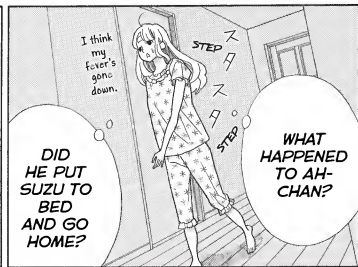
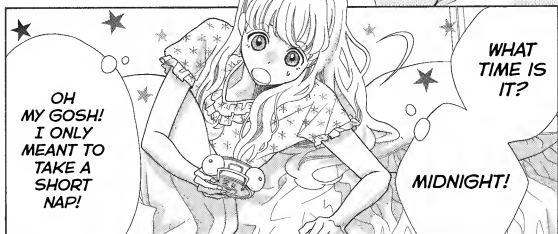
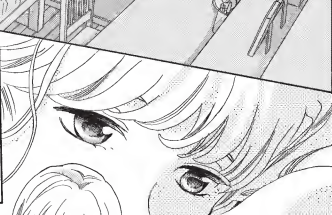
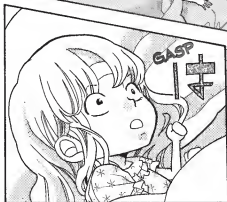
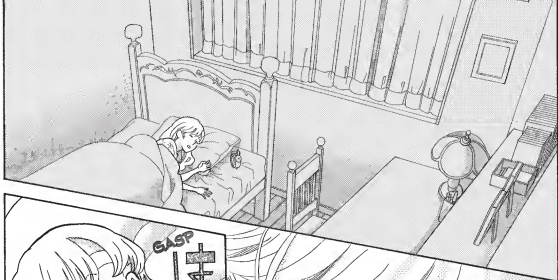


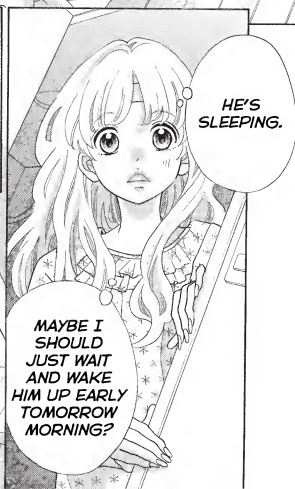
TICK

TICK

**WE'RE
MAKING
IT WORK.
AS IF WE
WERE A REAL
FAMILY...**







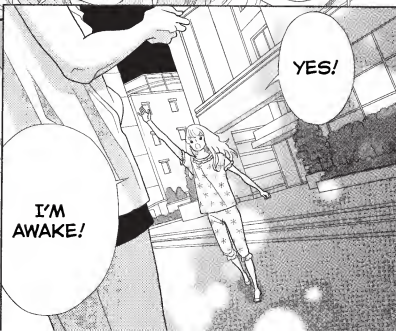


MESSAGE Ayase-san

SENDER

Are you awake?
I'm on my way home from work,
but I stopped by your house.







A boy with short, light-colored hair is standing and talking to a girl with long, wavy hair who is sitting on a stone ledge. The boy is holding a small object in his hand. The background is a stone wall with some foliage.

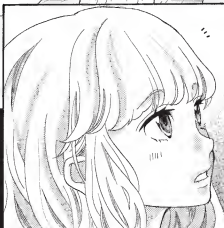
I'M
MUCH
BETTER
NOW!

NO.

HEY.

SORRY
TO MAKE
YOU COME
OUT WHEN
YOU'RE NOT
FEELING
WELL.

I'm
glad you
came.



The boy and girl are walking away from the stone wall, towards the left. The boy is wearing a t-shirt with a circular logo and the girl is wearing a patterned dress. They are walking on a path with trees in the background.

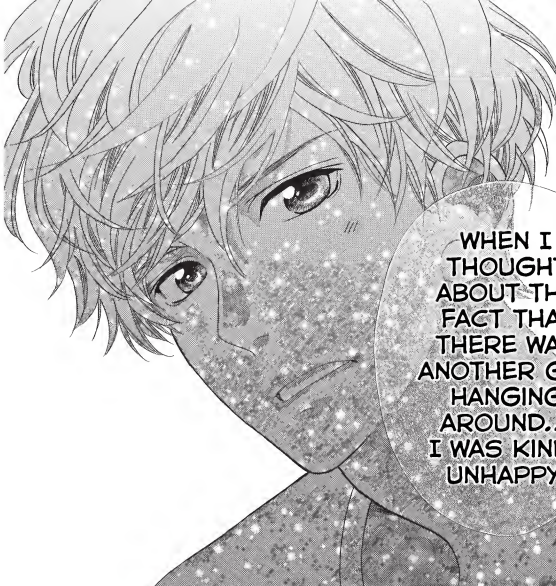
THAT WAS A
RULE I MADE
FOR MYSELF,
BUT I WAS
WORRIED, SO
I BROKE IT.

ACTUALLY
...

...I COULD
DEFINITELY MEET
UP WITH YOU MORE
OFTEN IF IT WAS
THIS LATE. BUT
YOU'RE IN HIGH
SCHOOL, SO WE
GOTTA STICK TO
AFTERNOONS.

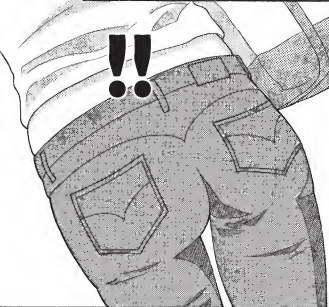
THAT'S
NOT
WHY.

WORRIED?
WELL,
I FEEL
MUCH
BETTER
NOW.



WHEN I
THOUGHT
ABOUT THE
FACT THAT
THERE WAS
ANOTHER GUY
HANGING
AROUND...
I WAS KINDA
UNHAPPY.





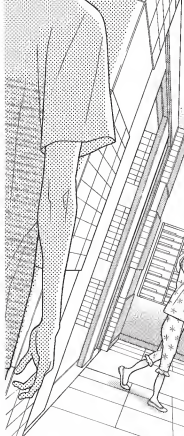


KISS
H

GRAB

GOOD
NIGHT.







HOLD
IT.



?!

IT'S
AH-CHAN!
IN THE
FLESH!

OH!

ヒ
FWIP



WHEN I
SAW YOU
TWO AT THE
FESTIVAL, I
FIGURED I
MUST'VE BEEN
SEEING THINGS.
BUT SHE REALLY
IS DATING THE
KAEDE AYASE

...



ARE
YOU
KIDDING
ME?

...

SIGH



BUT WHY
HINANA?

YOU
SAW
US?



SO IF
YOU'RE
JUST
FOOLING
AROUND...

SHE'S
NEVER HAD
EXPERIENCE
WITH
RELATIONSHIPS
AND STUFF.
SHE'S REALLY
INNOCENT.

...IF
YOU CAN'T
MAKE HER
HAPPY...
COULD YOU
PLEASE LEAVE
HER ALONE?



I DON'T
KNOW
ANYTHING
FOR SURE
YET, BUT I'M
DATING HER
BECAUSE
I HAVE THIS
FEELING
ABOUT
HER.

I'M NOT
PLAYING
AROUND.



SORRY.

HUH?
I-I...

BY THE WAY,
DO YOU HAVE
A CRUSH ON
HINANA?

I thought
so.

!!





I DON'T
WANT TO HEAR
COMPLAINTS
FROM SOMEONE
WHO WON'T EVEN
STEP INTO THE
PLAYING FIELD.



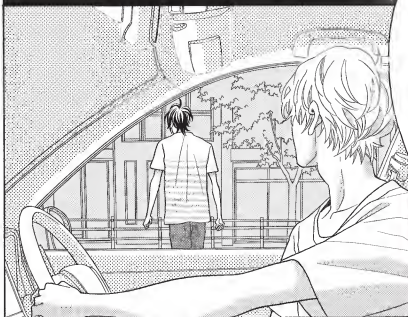


I'VE...

I'M
IN IT
FOR THE
LONG
HAUL.

...BEEN IN
THIS BATTLE
SINCE THE
BEGINNING.



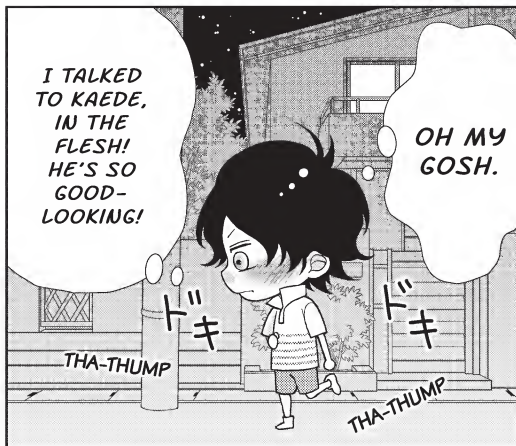


SOME DAY,
I'LL STEAL
HER AWAY
FROM YOU.



✦ Kiss Me ✦
✦ at ✦
the ✦ Stroke of ✦
✦ Midnight ✦

**AH-CHAN WAS KEEPING
HIS FANBOY HEART AT BAY.**





STORY . 7

Pay Attention to Me, Too

WHOA.

2-2

**SUMMER
VACATION
IS JUST
AROUND
THE
CORNER.**

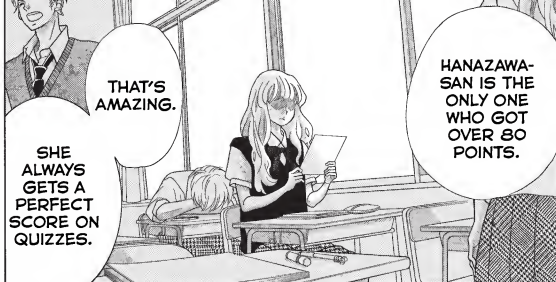
**THE
TEACHER
ADMITTED
THAT SHE
MADE IT
TOO HARD
THIS TIME,
BUT...**

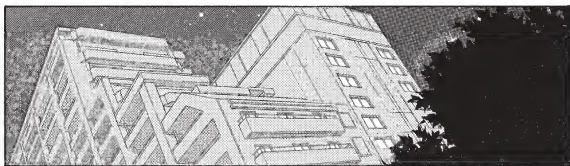
**ME,
TOO.**

**ME,
TOO.**

**OH, MY
GOSH.
I DID
HORRIBLY
ON THIS
QUIZ.**

**Kiss Me
at the Stroke of
Midnight**







AYASE-
SAN IS
CALLING
ME!

WHOA!

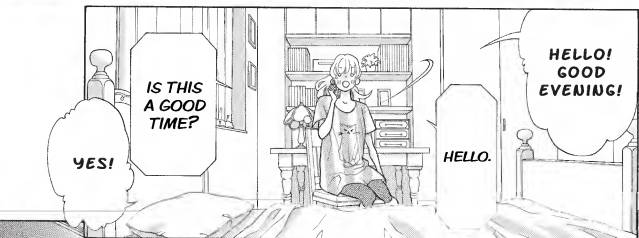


BUZZ

BUZZ

BUZZ

!



IS THIS
A GOOD
TIME?

YES!

HELLO!
GOOD
EVENING!

HELLO.



I GOT
THIS
SATURDAY
OFF, SO
I WAS
WONDERING
IF THAT
WOULD
WORK.

I MENTIONED
YOU COMING
TO MY HOUSE
THE OTHER
DAY.

YES.



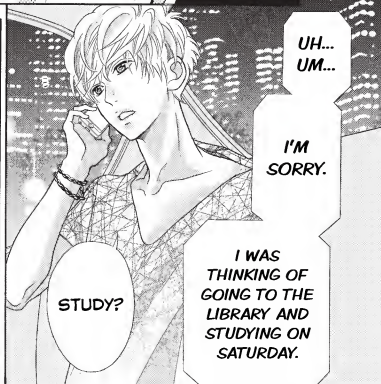
MY LITTLE
SISTER IS
GOING OUT
WITH MY
MOTHER THAT
DAY, SO IT'S
PERFECT...

!

REALLY?



YOUR
PLACE,
AYASE-
SAN?



UH...
UM...

I'M
SORRY.

I WAS
THINKING OF
GOING TO THE
LIBRARY AND
STUDYING ON
SATURDAY.

COME
ON.

*I can hear
you, you
know!*

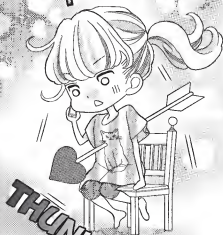
BUT...

A CERTAIN
LONELY,
SINGLE OLD
MAN WON'T
BE AROUND,
SO IT'LL BE
PEACEFUL.

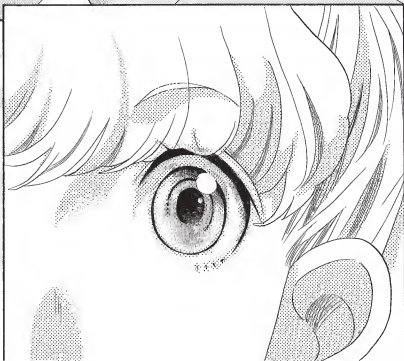
HE'S GOT A
MEETING.

PAY
ATTENTION
TO ME,
TOO.

トスッ



THUNK



O-

OKAY...



KAEDE AYASE

Japanese Actor Cast in 1 Phone Commercial for the First Time



ACTOR KAEDE AYASE HAS RECENTLY RELEASED SOME NATIONAL COMMERCIALS. HIS ROLE IN THE COMMERCIAL HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED. HIS SELECTION FOR THIS COMMERCIAL SHOWS AYASE'S ELEGANT CHARM. HIS POWER FITS WITH THE IMAI PRODUCT FACTORED INTO TO CHOOSE

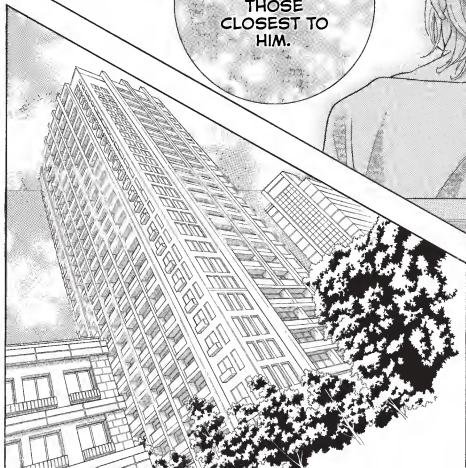
KAEDE'S
BEEN
GETTING
A LOT OF
WORK SINCE
HE LEFT
US.

HMM.



BUT IF
PEOPLE
FIND OUT
ABOUT THAT
THING, HE'LL
BE PLUNGED
STRAIGHT
INTO HELL.





WELCOME.

GA-CHK
フ
フ
フ

HUH?
WHY
ARE YOU
WEARING
YOUR
UNIFORM
ON A
WEEKEND?

Come in.

HELLO.

JUST
FELT
LIKE
IT.

BARK
フ
フ

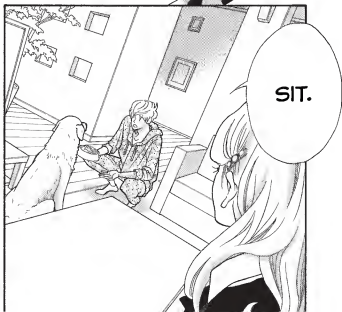
BARK
フ
フ

I WORE IT
TO SHOW I'M
COMPLETELY
SERIOUS
ABOUT
STUDYING.

Long
time,
no see,
Scarlet.

HMM?

woof
フ
フ





GOOD
GIRL, YOU
CAN EAT.

...IT LOOKS
JUST LIKE A
COMMERCIAL!

IT...

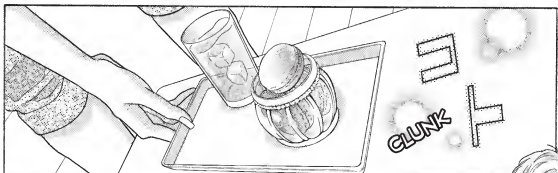
NEW PRODUCT



!!

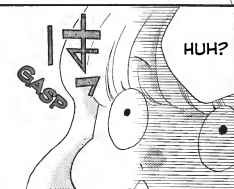
LUCKY!
I WANT
TO TRADE
PLACES WITH
SCARLET
RIGHT
NOW...

AYASE-
SAN LOOKS
LIKE A LITTLE
KID WHEN HE
SMILES LIKE
THAT.





WOOF.



HUH?

GASP

**OH,
THANKS.**



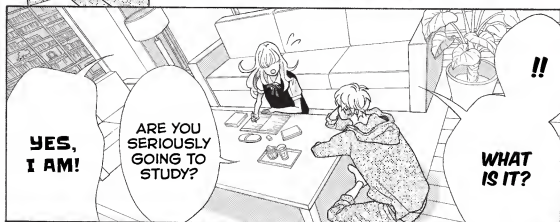
I got it.

**THERE
WAS A
MOSQUITO!**

TH-

**WHAT
THE
HECK
AM I
DOING?**







AYASE-
SAN...
AYASE-
SAN...

WHOA!

I'VE
NEVER
SEEN HIS
FACE SO
CLOSE UP
BEFORE.

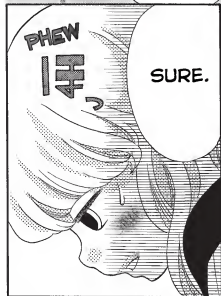
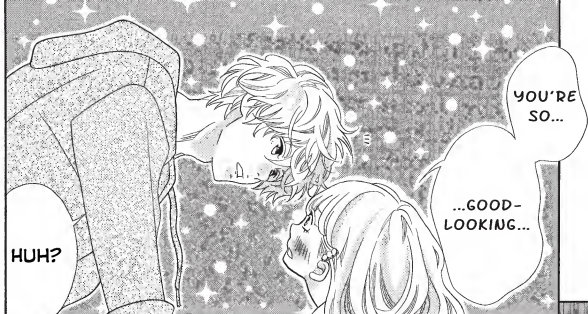


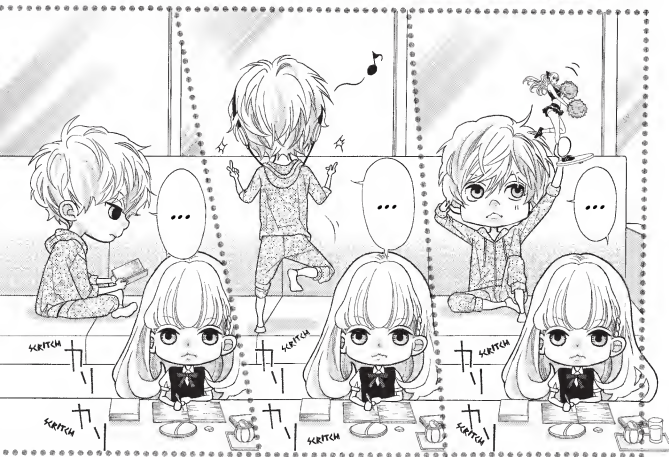
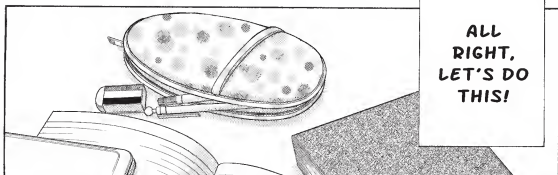
HIS
FACE
IS SO
DAINTY,
AND HIS
SKIN IS SO
SMOOTH.

HE HAS
SUPER-CHISELED
FEATURES. AND
HIS EYES HAVE
FLECKS OF
GREEN IN THEM.
AS IF HE WASN'T
JAPANESE...

HIS
HAIR
IS SO
SHINY,
TOO.

HE'S
SO...
SO...





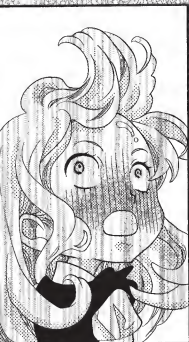
GRAB

?!

NOTHING.

WH-

WHAT'S
UP?



I JUST
WANTED
TO TOUCH
YOU.



I HAVE
TO RESTRICT
MYSELF.

I HAVE
TO STUDY.

PLEASE
LET GO!



HUH?

"RESTRICT"
YOUR-
SELF?

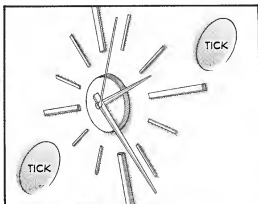




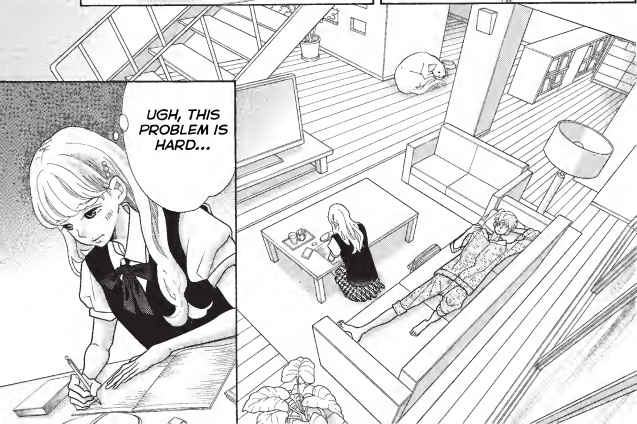
**YOU'RE
JUST
TRYING TO
FIND BUTTS
TO LOOK
AT, AREN'T
YOU?**

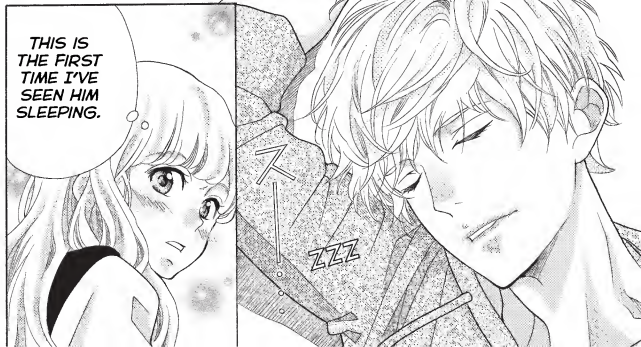
Let me
know if you
feel like
taking a
break.

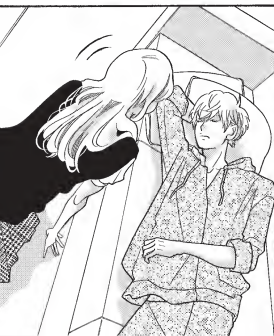
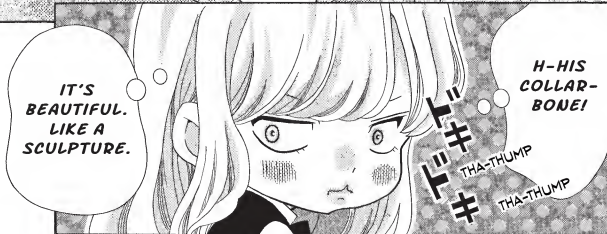
**ALL RIGHT,
NO OTHER
CHOICE, THEN.
I'LL BE LOOKING
UP VIDEOS
FROM THE RIO
CARNIVAL.**

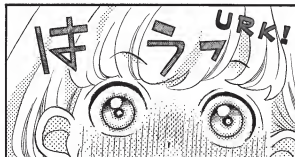
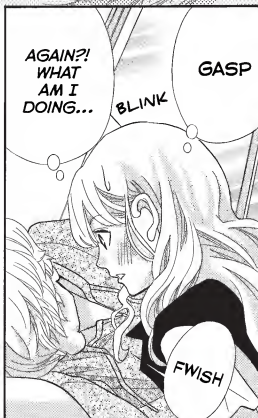
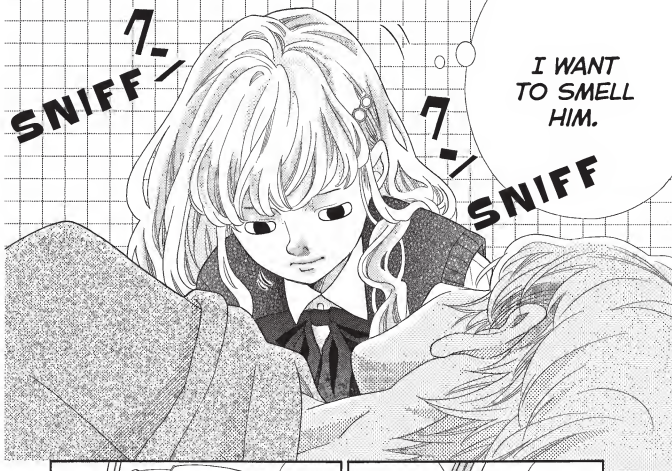


**UGH, THIS
PROBLEM IS
HARD...**











**HE'S
SO
SEXY!**



**DON'T
LOOK.
DON'T
LOOK.**



**OH,
MY
GOSH
!**

**HIS
STOMACH!
HIS ABS!**

OUT OF CONTROL

暴走。

A
LITTLE
PEEK
WON'T
HURT.

ヒ
ラ FWIP

HE'S
RIPPED.



THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN A GUY'S BODY IN-PERSON!

AHHHHH!

WURCH

YOU'RE
SUCH A
PERV,
HINANA!

CLATTER

PLEASE
STOP!

I'LL
TAKE MY
CLOTHES
OFF IF
YOU
WANT.

HOW
LONG...
?!

WH—
WH—

AHHH!

WHY?

I THINK
I SHOULD
GO HOME
FOR
TODAY.

BECAUSE
...

I'M
SORRY!
I'M
SORRY!

I HAD
A SUDDEN
IMPULSE,
AND...

IF WE'RE
TOGETHER,
I'LL JUST BE
DISTRACTED
BY YOU EVEN
MORE.

...I CAN'T
FOCUS ON
STUDYING.

BUT...



GOOD POINT

正論

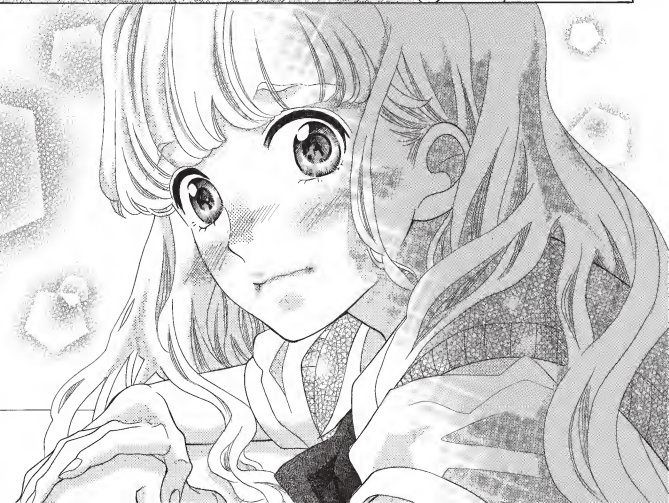
THAT'S
HOW IT
IS FOR
ME.

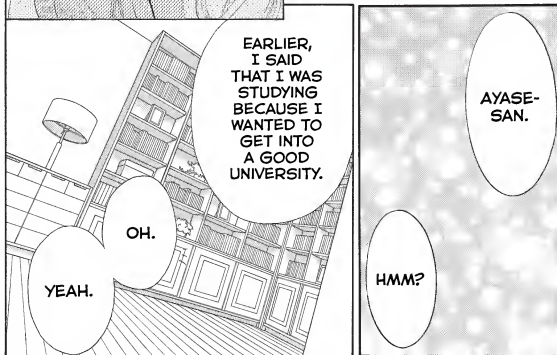
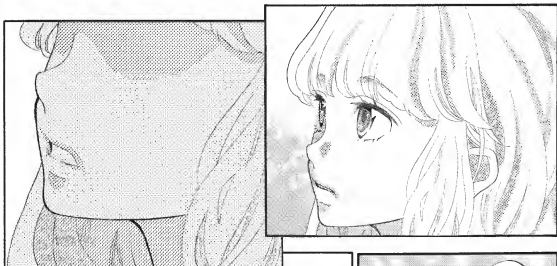
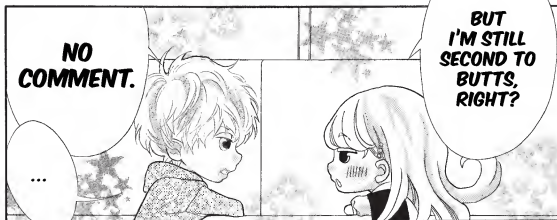
...WOULDN'T
IT BE EVEN
HARDER TO
FOCUS IF WE
DIDN'T MEET
UP WHEN WE
WERE ABLE
TO?

NO,
THAT'S NOT
TRUE AT ALL.
I COULDN'T
LEAVE YOU
ALONE WHILE
YOU WERE
STUDYING.

THAT'S
EASY FOR
YOU TO SAY,
THOUGH.

I WANT
TO KNOW
MORE
ABOUT
YOU.

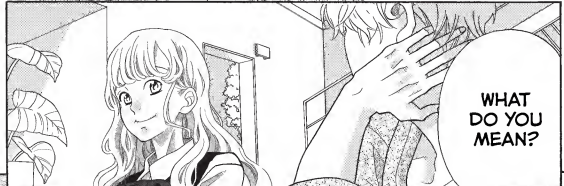




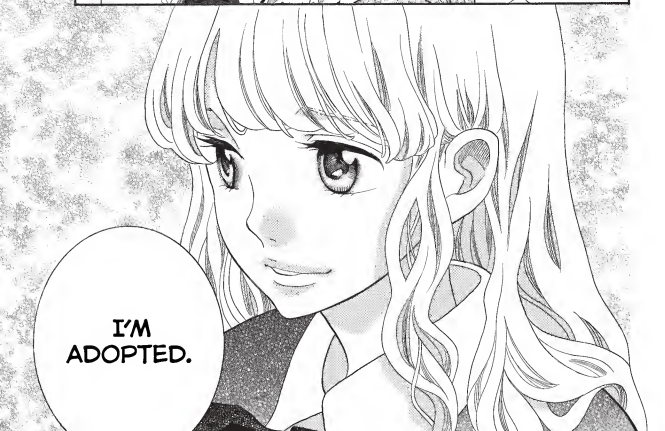


HUH?

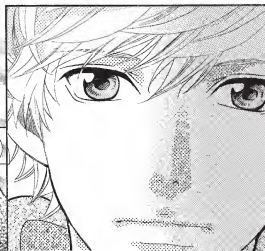
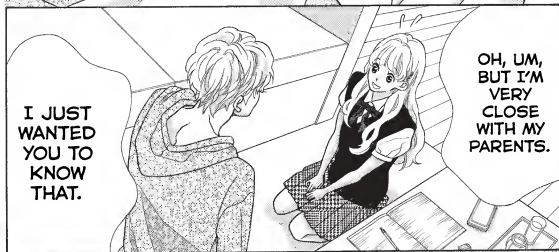
THAT'S
BECAUSE I
DON'T WANT
MY PARENTS
TO WORRY
ABOUT ME.



WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

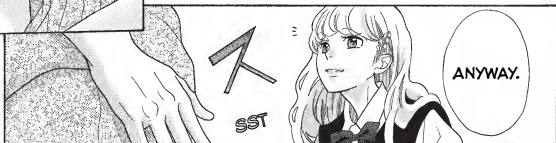


I'M
ADOPTED.

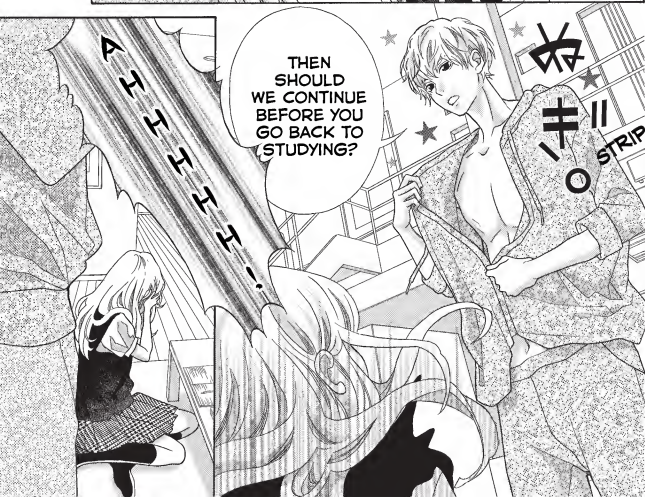




SURE.

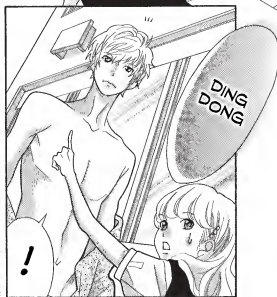


ANYWAY.



THEN
SHOULD
WE CONTINUE
BEFORE YOU
GO BACK TO
STUDYING?

STRIP





HEY,
KAEDE.



TO BE CONTINUED IN
KISS ME AT THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT
VOLUME 3

AFTERWORD

HELLO, EVERYONE!

THANK YOU FOR READING VOLUME 2!

DID YOU HAVE FUN?

WHEN THE FIRST VOLUME WAS PUBLISHED, I RECEIVED SEVERAL QUESTIONS ASKING ABOUT WHO KAEDE WAS BASED ON, BUT HE ISN'T BASED ON ANYONE IN PARTICULAR. PERSONALLY, HE WAS SORT OF A MISH-MASH OF TWO PEOPLE I HAD IN MIND. BUT I'M KEEPING IT A SECRET BECAUSE I'M IN AWE OF THEM BASED ON MY OWN INTERPRETATIONS. FUNNY BONE ALSO SHOWS UP IN THIS VOLUME, BUT THESE GUYS ALSO AREN'T BASED ON ANYONE FROM REAL LIFE.



NAOTO



YUTA



KAEDE



MITSUKI



AYAMI

(NAOTO'S THE ONLY ONE WHO HASN'T BEEN REVEALED BY NAME YET, SO HERE HE IS!)

I'M NOT SURE WHAT KIND OF TROUBLE THESE GUYS WILL BE STIRRING UP UNTIL I'M FINISHED WRITING. BUT I'M GOING TO BE HAVING A LOT OF FUN WHILE DRAWING IT!

I HOPE YOU ENJOY VOLUME 3, TOO!

11.2015

-RIN MIKIMOTO

TWITTER: @RINMIKIRIN



Special thanx

S.sato

H.saijyo

M.kawai

M.takayashiki

K.kaneko

Every one of the staff

Everyone in the editorial department

Horiuchi-sama

Morita-san

Saiki-san

arcoinc Kusume-sama

&U

I LOVE YOU



Ever since I started writing this series,
I've had lots of opportunities to study
up on celebrity topics. I love doing
research! Unrelated to this manga, I'm
currently looking into insects. It sounds
dull, but I look forward to it every night
before bed! Hope you enjoy Volume 2!

RIN MIKIMOTO

TRANSLATION NOTES

TANABATA FESTIVAL, P.57

"Tanabata," which literally translates to "the seventh evening," is a Japanese summer festival that comes from the Chinese Qixi Festival. It is most commonly held on July seventh, with several events occurring for the rest of the month. This is because, as legend goes, the deities Orihime and Hikoboshi can only meet once a year, on this night. The story revolves around Princess Orihime, the daughter of Tentei, the King of the Sky. She is skilled at weaving, and spends all her days hard at work. Because she is sad that she does not have time to meet a partner, Tentei introduces her to Hikoboshi, a boy who is talented at cowherding. When the two meet and fall in love, they forgo their weaving and cowherding, which upsets Tentei. The King forbids them from seeing each other ever again, but is later moved by his daughter's pleas, and so, he allows the couple to meet on the seventh day of the seventh month. Orihime is represented by the star Vega, and Hikoboshi is represented by the star Altair. In addition to the festival, it is custom for people to write their wishes on strips of paper and hang them on bamboo.

YUKATA, P.60

A casual summer kimono often worn to summer festivals. It is made from a much lighter cloth than regular kimono, and is easier to wear and prepare.

"Parasyte fans should get a kick out of the chance to revisit Iwaaki's weird, violent, strangely affecting universe. Recommended." -Otaku USA Magazine

"A great anthology containing an excellent variety of genres and styles." -Manga Bookshelf

Based on the critically acclaimed classic horror manga

The first new *Parasyte* manga in
over 20 years!

NEO PARASYTE

BY ASUMIKO NAKAMURA, EMA TOYAMA, MIKI RINNO, LALAKO KOJIMA, KAORI YUKI,
BANKO KUZE, YUUKI OBATA, KASHIO, YUI KUROE, ASIA WATANABE, MIKIMAKI,
HIKARU SURUGA, HAJIME SHINJO, RENJURO KINDAICHI, AND YURI NARUSHIMA

A collection of chilling new *Parasyte* stories from Japan's top shojo artists!

Parasites: shape-shifting aliens whose only purpose is to assimilate with and consume the human race... but do these monsters have a different side? A parasite becomes a prince to save his romance-obsessed female host from a dangerous stalker. Another hosts a cooking show, in which the real monsters are revealed. These and 13 more stories, from some of the greatest shojo manga artists alive today, together make up a chilling, funny, and entertaining tribute to one of manga's horror classics!

© Hitoshi Iwaaki, Asumiko Nakamura, Ema Toyama, Miki Rinno, Lalako Kojima, Kaori Yuki, Banko Kuze, Yuuki Obata, Kashio, Yui Kuroe, Asia Watanabe, Mikimaki, Hikaru Suruga, Hajime Shinjo, Renjuro Kindaichi, Yuri Narushima/Kodansha Ltd. All rights reserved.

KC
KODANSHA
COMICS



"An emotional and artistic tour de force! We see incredible triumph, and crushing defeat... each panel [is] a thrill!"

—Anitay

"A journey that's instantly compelling."

—Anime News Network

WELCOME TO THE BALLROOM

By Tomo Takeuchi

Feckless high school student Tatara Fujita wants to be good at something—anything. Unfortunately, he's about as average as a slouchy teen can be. The local bullies know this, and make it a habit to hit him up for cash, but all that changes when the debonair Kaname Sengoku sends them packing. Sengoku's not the neighborhood watch, though. He's a professional ballroom dancer. And once Tatara Fujita gets pulled into the world of ballroom, his life will never be the same.





The Black Museum ^{The} Ghost and the Lady

By Kazuhiro Fujita

Deep in Scotland Yard in London sits an evidence room dedicated to the greatest mysteries of British history. In this “Black Museum” sits a misshapen hunk of lead—two bullets fused together—the key to a wartime encounter between Florence Nightingale, the mother of modern nursing, and a supernatural Man in Grey. This story is unknown to most scholars of history, but a special guest of the museum will tell the tale of The Ghost and the Lady...

Praise for Kazuhiro Fujita’s *Ushio and Tora*

“A charming revival that combines a classic look with modern depth and pacing... **Essential viewing both for curmudgeons and new fans alike.**” — Anime News Network

“**GREAT!** The first episode of *Ushio and Tora* captures the essence of '90s anime.” — IGN

H A P P I N E S S

——ハピネス——

By Shuzo Oshimi

From the creator of *The Flowers of Evil*

Nothing interesting is happening in Makoto Ozaki's first year of high school. His life is a series of quiet humiliations: low-grade bullies, unreliable friends, and the constant frustration of his adolescent lust. But one night, a pale, thin girl knocks him to the ground in an alley and offers him a choice. Now everything is different. Daylight is searingly bright. Food tastes awful. And worse than anything is the terrible, consuming thirst...

Praise for Shuzo Oshimi's *The Flowers of Evil*

"A shockingly readable story that vividly—one might even say queasily—evokes the fear and confusion of discovering one's own sexuality. Recommended." —The Manga Critic

"A page-turning tale of sordid middle school blackmail." —Otaku USA Magazine

"A stunning new horror manga." —Third Eye Comics



KC
KODANSHA
COMICS

© Shuzo Oshimi/Kodansha Ltd. All rights reserved.

The award-winning manga about what happens inside you!

"Far more entertaining than it ought to be... what kid doesn't want to think that every time they sneeze a torpedo shoots out their nose?"

—Anime News Network



Strep throat! Hay fever! Influenza! The world is a dangerous place for a red blood cell just trying to get her deliveries finished. Fortunately, she's not alone...she's got a whole human body's worth of cells ready to help out! The mysterious white blood cells, the buff and brash killer T cells, even the cute little platelets—everyone's got to come together if they want to keep you healthy!

Cells at Work!

はたらく細胞

A new series from the creator of *Soul Eater*, the megahit manga and anime seen on Toonami!

"Fun and lively...
a great start!"
-Adventures in
Poor Taste

FIRE FORCE

By Atsushi Ohkubo

The city of Tokyo is plagued by a deadly phenomenon: spontaneous human combustion! Luckily, a special team is there to quench the inferno: The Fire Force! The fire soldiers at Special Fire Cathedral 8 are about to get a unique addition. Enter Shinra, a boy who possesses the power to run at the speed of a rocket, leaving behind the famous "devil's footprints" (and destroying his shoes in the process). Can Shinra and his colleagues discover the source of this strange epidemic before the city burns to ashes?

Kiss Me At the Stroke of Midnight 2

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

Kiss Me at the Stroke of Midnight volume 2 copyright © 2015 Rin Mikimoto
English translation copyright © 2017 Rin Mikimoto

All rights reserved.

First published in Japan in 2015 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.
Electronic Publishing rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

English digital edition published by Kodansha Advanced Media, LLC, San Francisco.

www.kodanshacomics.com

ISBN: 9781682335727

Digital Edition: 1.0.0

Translation: Melissa Goldberg
Lettering: Bunny To, Scott O. Brown
Editing: Haruko Hashimoto, Dawne Law
Editorial Assistance: YKS Services LLC/SKY Japan, INC.
Kodansha Comics Edition Cover Design: Phil Balsman

